red eye

Wednesday
MAY 26, 2010

redeyechicago.com
A Chicago Tribune publication

★ FREE

Abu Dhabi style

Been there, dune that: Carrie and Co. trying to prove that 'Sex' still sells in sandy reunion *pages 34-35*

REDEYE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Fed. officials drill well inspectors *3*

Couple buried under own mess saved *7*

Hawks have the Buff stuff *12*

Sweet truth: New spots open doors *19*

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore

rkpalmore@tribune.com

For 'Sex' fans

Tocco, 1266 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-687-8895

Flash your "Sex and the City 2" ticket stub (or proof of purchase) for a 20 percent dining discount starting Wednesday. Seal the deal with a round of $5 cosmos. 5 p.m.

For drinkers

Chicago Marriott Downtown, 540 N. Michigan Ave. 312-836-0100

Do your part for wine creation at a grape-crushing party in the hotel lobby. It's easy: You feed grapes to the giant crusher and the hotel feeds you with appetizers and signature wine. 4:30-7 p.m. $10.

For singles

Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan Rd.

Scope potential summer flings at Nerds at Heart's Friki Fest for gay men. Expect board games, trivia, themed prizes and a drink ticket. 7 p.m. $20-$25. **nerdsatheart.com**

FIND MORE BEST BETS AT METROMIX.COM

WHO YOU VIBIN'?

Another installment of RedEye's "Who You Vibin'?" online dating contest has come to a close. This week's featured bachelorette is ... **Lissa von Brecht**! If you're interested in getting in touch with Lissa, hit up the e-mail listed below. Whether she responds is up to her, of course. For more dating fun, visit **redeyechicago.com/vibin**.

NAME	AGE	'HOOD	E-MAIL
Lissa von Brecht	26	Lakeview	elvbshu06@hotmail.com

What do you do? Work with high school athletes to get them recruited to play college sports

Seeking? Someone who can enjoy a fun night out or a cozy night in.

The song that best describes my dating life: "Haven't Met You Yet" —Michael Buble

The best under-the-radar Chicago spot: Happy Village in Ukrainian Village

The most embarrassing thing I'm willing to admit here: I embarrass myself daily.

You know you want me because: See answer above.

This celebrity would make my list: Ryan Reynolds

85 65

TODAY'S FORECAST

The sun could use a brief respite.

THU. **77** 56 Possibly stormy

FRI. **76** 54 Where do we ...

SAT. **77** 57 ... sign up for this ...

SUN. **81** 59 ... every day?

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Christopher Trifsis, AIA, NCARB (MS '09)
Technical Services Manager and Project Manager The Rise Group

Say what?

The day's news in quote form

"There I was ... former president of the United States with a plastic bag in my hand, picking up what I had been dodging for eight solid years."

—FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, USING A DOG-WALKING STORY TO JOKE ABOUT THE COMEDOWN OF POST-PRESIDENTIAL LIFE DURING A WIND ENERGY CONVENTION TUESDAY IN DALLAS

"I am mortified by my mistake ... and can only hope the purity of my motive, to find a way to connect with the graduates and encourage them to a life of service, will allow you to forgive me."

—"TODAY" SHOW NEWS ANCHOR ANN CURRY, APOLOGIZING MONDAY FOR A COMMENCEMENT SPEECH IN WHICH SHE CONFUSED GRADUATES FROM WHEATON COLLEGE IN ILLINOIS—NAMELY THE REV. BILLY GRAHAM, WES CRAVEN AND DENNIS HASTERT—WITH GRADUATES FROM WHEATON COLLEGE IN MASSACHUSETTS, WHERE SHE WAS SPEAKING

"My government will propose parliamentary and political reform to restore trust in democratic institutions and rebalance the relationship between the citizen and the state."

—QUEEN ELIZABETH II, DELIVERING A SOMBER MESSAGE OF AUSTERITY TUESDAY IN LONDON IN A SPEECH OUTLINING THE PLANS OF THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT

ALL QUOTES TAKEN FROM AP STORIES.

Workers with the National Wildlife Federation examine water near oil-soaked vegetation Tuesday in Barataria Bay, La. **AP**

Federal report rips oil well inspectors

Says they provide little oversight, often break ethics rules

Associated Press

WASHINGTON BP readied yet another attempt to slow the oil gushing into the Gulf on Tuesday as a government report alleged that drilling regulators have been so close to the industry that they have been accepting gifts from oil and gas companies and even negotiating to go work for them.

President Obama prepared to head to the Gulf on Friday to review efforts to halt the disastrous flow.

Scientists said underwater video of the leak showed the plume growing significantly darker, suggesting heavier, more-polluting oil is spewing out.

BP's next effort to stop the gushing oil well, perhaps Wednesday, is to involve a procedure called a "top kill," in which heavy mud and cement are to be shot into the well to plug it up. The procedure has never been tried a mile beneath the sea, and company executives estimate its chances of success at 60 to 70 percent.

In Washington, the Obama administration said it has been laboring to root out problems at the agency that regulates offshore drilling.

In at least one case, according to a new report from the Interior Department's acting inspector general, an inspector for the Minerals Management Service admitted using crystal methamphetamine and said he might have been under the influence of the drug the next day at work.

The report cites a variety of violations of federal regulations and ethics rules at the agency's Louisiana office. Previous inspector general investigations have focused on inappropriate behavior by the royalty-collection staff in the agency's Denver office.

The report adds to the climate of frustration and criticism facing the Obama administration in the monthlong oil spill disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, although it covers actions before the spill. Millions of gallons of oil are gushing into the Gulf, endangering wildlife and the livelihoods of fishermen, as scrutiny intensifies on a lax regulatory climate.

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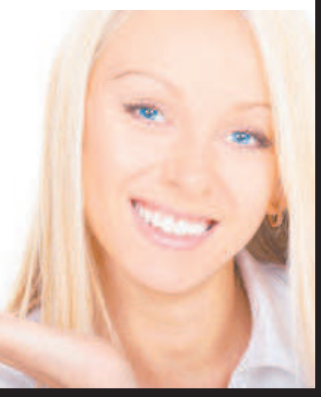

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*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010-11 Occupational Outlook Handbook.

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SCHOOLS OF MASSAGE THERAPY

page four

KATIE DONBAVAND
ritaredeye@tribune.com

TALK TO US
What's your take on things? We want to know.

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True love is great; wedding excess isn't

Wedding season is officially upon us. I can tell because I no longer have a spare summer weekend to myself. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, almost every weekend has been booked thanks to the cheerful "Save the Date!" postcards that have been filling up my mailbox.

But it isn't just the ceremony and the drink-filled party afterward that are crowding my calendar. It's also the bridal showers, the bachelorette parties, the bridesmaids tea, the farewell brunches and the rehearsal dinners that are putting a dent in my vacation time.

The endless list of pre- and post-wedding events isn't the only thing that has become excessive about getting married. Guests lists have been supersized, budgets sometimes climb into the millions of dollars and receptions are clocking in with the sort of opulence that would make Marie Antoinette blush. Like a vampire at a blood drive, weddings have become bloated.

Weddings have become like one of those sticky balls from that Japanese video game "Katamari Damacy;" the longer the planning goes on, the more massive it gets. You start small, but then the budget swells as you read all those magazines that insist you must have a signature cocktail and welcome bags filled with locally made goodies.

Soon, if you aren't careful, the planning of the wedding can carry you off. Bridal gowns whose price tags climb into the thousands start to look reasonable, even though you'll wait until those jeans at the Gap go on sale. Horse-drawn carriages, ice sculptures and forests of rare orchids seem essential.

In the most extreme, over-the-top weddings, the ceremony has become overshadowed by crazy, self-indulgent ridiculousness. The events turn into less of a celebration of love and commitment and more of a race to be the biggest, loudest and the best. They become the equivalent of the toddler who wants to wear a tutu and gold leggings—a chance to show off.

In the midst of all this, we've become a nation that expects a bride to be bossy and bitchy. Bridezillas have become an accepted pop culture character thanks to reality shows. Brides are expected to ditch decorum and write up a list of demands that would make a hostage negotiator roll his eyes.

When it comes down to it, it's just silly stuff. Those things don't last. Gorgeous bouquets will wither, the 20-piece orchestra will pack away the instruments and nobody will remember if there was a specially-made logo of your initials.

When all that excess is stripped away, what remains are the marriage and the love it is based on. Take it from a nearly professional wedding guest: The best weddings are the ones in which the couple's love is palpable, when the father of the bride's toast makes you tear up, when the dance floor is constantly filled with shoeless bridesmaids and when you laugh until your cheeks hurt.

Quite frankly, no one wants a deck of playing cards with your faces on them.

KATIE DONBAVAND IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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Midwest Dental Sleep Center is the first Dental Sleep Center in Illinois and one of the first in the country. Dr. Richard Craig is a licensed general dentist and has solely dedicated his time to treating patients suffering from snoring and sleep apnea. Dr. Craig states, "our office feels like a spa, staff really get to know our patients' stories and spend the time necessary to make sure they get the best care possible".

When people first call Midwest Dental Sleep Center they are concerned about whether or not medical insurance pays for it. Melaney explains, "Medical Insurance covers it, with the exception of Medicaid and Medicare". In the past they had to work for months to actually get the pre-approval and the payment from insurance. After a great deal of advocacy and appeals, Midwest Dental Sleep Center has developed excellent relationships with insurance companies. It is such a pleasure to be able to go through exact insurance payments with the patient before they commit to treatment. Melaney adds, "We have been one of the first centers in the country to really understand how to secure payment for this service".

So if you are tired of being tired, or your loved ones are just tired of your snoring, Call Midwest Dental Sleep Center today at (888)724-1503 or visit at www.tiredofcpap.com.

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The Midwest Dental Sleep Center said most sleep apnea sufferers snore. Snoring alone, however, is not enough to diagnose sleep apnea. Other risk factors for the disease:

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- daytime fatigue
- difficulty getting out of bed
- napping or dozing off
- drowsy driving
- morning headaches
- gastric reflux or heartburn
- need extra pillows to sleep
- frequent trips to the restroom at night
- easily frustrated or irritable
- hyperactivity (ADD or ADHD) in children
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If you have these symptoms you might have sleep apnea and need to see your physician.

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chicago

A city building inspector photographs the home of Jesse and Thelma Gaston, who were found alive buried under debris. ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE

Couple found in debris

Two in their 70s discovered buried alive in home filled with trash

Chicago Tribune

David O'Neal hadn't seen his sister for six to eight years.

Then Monday night, her neighbor called him with unbelievable news: Thelma Gaston and her husband, Jesse—both in their 70s—had been found buried alive under mounds of trash and debris in their Grand Crossing home, after possibly as long as three weeks.

"I was surprised. I wanted to come to Chicago as soon as possible," said O'Neal, who lives in the Seattle area. "I love and care about her."

A fire official on the scene said the couple had not been heard from for three weeks, and Thelma Gaston, 75, had injuries that resembled rat bites. Both she and Jesse Gaston, 76, were taken to Jackson Park Hospital in critical condition, but a nurse there said Tuesday morning that their conditions were improved, though they still were in intensive care.

Thelma Gaston may have fallen through the debris and become trapped. When her husband tried to come to her aid, he apparently became trapped as well, according to Fire Department spokesman Kevin MacGregor.

The Gastons' neighbors shared O'Neal's shock. They rarely saw the couple—Thelma, a retired school teacher, and Jesse, a retired zoologist.

"It just brought me to tears to see the condition they were found in," said next-door neighbor Reola Valentine, 59, who called 311 about 4 p.m. Monday and asked for a well-being check that led to their discovery.

She said she didn't know the couple, but she had not seen the man mowing his lawn for quite some time and saw that his gray truck parked outside was accumulating parking tickets.

Over the last few weeks, she said, various people came to the Gastons' door and, when their knocks went unanswered, frequently came to her to ask if she knew anything.

Chicago police showed up about 6:30 p.m. at the home in the 1500 block of East 69th Street and noticed an overpowering odor. Officers called the Fire Department to make a forced entry.

The stench was so strong that fire personnel had to don hazardous material suits to deal with the debris. Paramedics reported seeing rodents on the property.

The couple apparently were the only residents in the two-story apartment building.

Pagano
TRIBUNE FILE

Metra boss made plea in suicide note

Chicago Tribune

A note left by Metra Executive Director Phil Pagano before he committed suicide May 7 said he had done nothing wrong and that he loved Metra, according to a police report obtained Tuesday by the Tribune from the McHenry County Sheriff's Department.

The note, addressed to Metra Chairwoman Carole Doris and board members, said: "I am deeply sorry for all that I have put you through. With the exception of this one mistake I have always done things the honest and right way. I hope that you believe me. Now there is nothing for me to lie about. ... On my dying breath you need to know this. I love Metra. I gave it my all—heart and soul."

"Again on my dying breathe [sic] with this one item I have done nothing wrong. They [my family] need your help. Please," the note concluded.

Pagano stepped in front of a Metra train about a mile from his Crystal Lake home less than two hours before Metra's board was to take up a recommendation that he be fired. An investigation ordered by Metra's board determined that Pagano had taken $475,000 in improper vacation pay.

The five-paragraph note, a copy of which was obtained by the Tribune, was typed in uppercase letters and addressed, "Dear Carole and the board."

McHenry County Sheriff Keith Nygren said the note had been left in an envelope addressed to Doris and left in Pagano's home. Pagano left other notes to his family, but the sheriff did not release them, citing privacy concerns.

Pagano asked that Metra "show compassion" to his wife and family. "We always talked about Metra being a family," Pagano wrote. "I now hope what I did for others will be done for me."

$3.2 billion Google generated $3.2 billion for Illinois businesses in 2009, the search engine said Tuesday as part of a nationwide announcement about the company's effect on state economies. TRIBUNE

Report: Juror likened Burge to Capone

A potential juror in the case of a former Chicago police official accused of lying about the torture of suspects will be questioned for saying the defendant was like Al Capone. A potential juror said Tuesday someone told her to think of former Lt. Jon Burge as "a Capone."

8 arrests made along lakefront

Chicago police say they responded to a fight, the assault of a jogger, and a gang-related shooting all within about three hours Monday night along the lakefront between Fullerton and North avenues. Six teens and two adults were arrested.

No Asian carp found in latest aquatic hunt

Biologists wrapped up another search for Asian carp in Chicago's waterways Tuesday, an orchestrated massive fish kill designed to verify the presence of the fish in the Calumet-Sag Channel. They found none of the aggressive invasive species.

Cabdriver dies of gunshots

A cabdriver who managed to restrain a man who allegedly shot him five times has died from his wounds, authorities said Tuesday. Driver Patrick Foster, 44, of Park City, was able to pin the suspect with his body after the shooting, holding him long enough for police to arrive and arrest the man.

AP, TRIBUNE

Demetrius Travis (standing), 18, puts on an Eastern Illinois University hat Tuesday at Harry Caray's. Students from Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men were honored with a signing day event after all 107 seniors were accepted to colleges. JOSÈ M. OSORIO/ TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Urban Prep grads honored with shoe

Chicago Tribune

Borrowing from a longstanding sports tradition, Englewood's Urban Prep Academy for Young Men held a signing day Tuesday for its 107 seniors—all of whom have been accepted to colleges—substituting academic commitments for athletic ones.

The students, who made headlines in March for their 100 percent acceptance rate, took turns publicly announcing their colleges of choice, then donning a cap from their future schools. The event included remarks by former Bear Chris Zorich, who spoke about his journey through law school and the NFL.

When Gerald Jackson was a kid, he dreamed of a signing day that would announce his basketball skills to the world. Instead, Jackson joined 106 of his Urban Prep classmates Tuesday for the academic signing ceremony.

"It's a big, big day," said Jackson, who will attend Howard University in the fall.

A Nike representative also surprised the students and revealed a prototype of a shoe designed for Urban Prep in the school's red and gold colors. Nike will donate footwear to Urban Prep students.

The school's first graduating class has gained acceptance to more than 80 schools, including Northwestern University, Georgetown University, Howard University, DePaul University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. College representatives also attended the downtown event, hosted by Harry Caray's.

Nike's prototype shoe designed specifically for Urban Prep.

The achievement is particularly noteworthy for Urban Prep, where only 4 percent of this year's senior class read at grade level as freshmen, according to Tim King, the school's CEO.

Urban Prep requires double periods of English, about 72,000 more minutes in class over four years than traditional CPS schools and a strict code of conduct.

"This is the next step in the transition," King said. "Graduating high school is not a big deal. Getting into college is not a big deal. Finishing college—that's a big deal."

3 killed in shooting

Chicago Tribune

Three men were killed Tuesday afternoon in an apparent gang- and drug-related shooting on the South Side, authorities said.

All the victims were shot in the head in the 7600 block of South Coles Avenue outside a courtyard apartment building, according to authorities. They said two people walked up to the men, at least one opened fire on them and then fled the scene. The shooting happened just west of Rainbow Park Beach.

One of the victims, Joseph A. Powell, 30, was dead on the scene, according to his aunt, Georgia Griffin. She said he fixed items in people's houses, a trade he did to support his young daughter.

"He was the kind of guy who could fix anything," Griffin said. "He would walk past you and ask if you needed help."

Officials would not immediately confirm the identities of the victims.

According to authorities and court records, Powell and the other two victims—one age 29 and the other whose 25th birthday was Tuesday—have lengthy arrest records. All three have drug convictions in their criminal backgrounds and one of them has a weapons conviction. Authorities said all the victims had gang affiliations.

U2 shows canceled

Chicago Tribune

U2 fans who were looking forward to the band's summer tour will have to wait until 2011 to see Bono and crew. The band, which was set to kick off the North American leg of its 360 Degrees Tour in Salt Lake City on June 3, has postponed its concerts for the next two months.

Lead singer Bono is recovering from emergency back surgery following an injury sustained during rehearsals last week in Germany. Doctors who operated on Bono said he suffered from severe compression of the sciatic nerve and a herniated disc and was in intense pain with partial paralysis in his lower leg.

The canceled dates include the band's July 6 return to Soldier Field. In September, U2 opened the North American leg of its massive 360 Degrees Tour at the Chicago stadium. The band will also miss out on appearing at the UK's Glastonbury festival.

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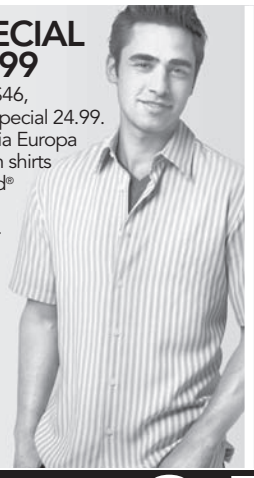

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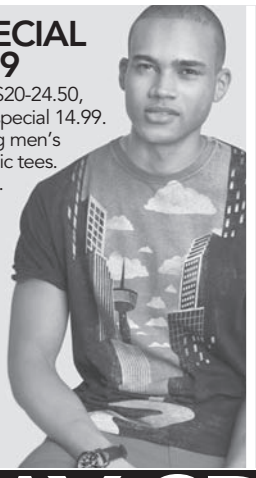

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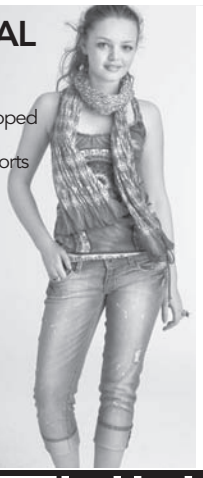

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1 Former mayor sentenced
Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick (above) was sentenced to up to five years in prison Tuesday for violating the terms of his probation stemming from his conviction for lying under oath about an affair with his chief of staff. MCT PHOTO

2 30 dead in Jamaica
Thousands of heavily armed police and soldiers barged past barricades into the most violent slums in Kingston, Jamaica, on Tuesday. Authorities clashed with die-hard defenders of a gang leader sought by the U.S. At least 30 people have died, officials said.

3 Report targets dog mills
Federal investigators have uncovered grisly conditions at puppy mills around the country where dogs were infested with ticks, living with gaping wounds and in pools of feces, according to a disturbing new report that placed the blame on lax enforcement.

4 Six injured by turbulence
A United Airlines flight from London to L.A. was forced to make an emergency landing in Montreal on Tuesday after hitting severe turbulence. Six passengers were injured—including one who suffered a severe bone fracture.

5 Chimp owner dies
The woman whose chimpanzee mauled and blinded her friend last year in New Haven, Conn., leading to lawsuits and a national debate over the regulation of exotic pets, has died, her attorney said Tuesday.

Troops to secure border
President Obama will send 1,200 National Guard troops to boost security along the U.S.-Mexico border, officials said Tuesday, pre-empting Republican plans to try to force votes on such a deployment.

Gay ban still up in the air

6 WASHINGTON A lukewarm endorsement from Defense Secretary Robert Gates and opposition among some Democratic lawmakers cast doubt Tuesday on a White House-backed proposal to lift the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

Conservative Democrats were hesitant to back the compromise struck Monday by the White House and a small group of more liberal lawmakers who fear that repeal efforts will be doomed if Republicans regain control of one or both houses of Congress after fall elections.

The plan would overturn the "don't ask, don't tell" law but still allow the military to decide when and how to implement any changes to accommodate the new policy.

President Obama has vowed to help repeal the law. Gates said Tuesday he supports repeal but would prefer that Congress wait to vote until he can talk to the troops and chart a path forward. A study ordered by Gates is due Dec. 1.

Some lawmakers took a similar stand. "I see no reason for the political process to pre-empt it," Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.) said of the military study.

Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, say they agree that the ban should be lifted, yet want time to complete a wide-ranging study on how to do so without causing turmoil.

With the political clock ticking, several lawmakers were planning this week to push for an immediate suspension on military firings related to sexual orientation.

THE LAW
The 1993 "don't ask, don't tell" law prohibits the military from asking service members whether they are gay, bans homosexual activity and requires that gay troops not discuss their sexual orientation.

Ships collide near Singapore
7 Crews work around an enormous hole in the side of the MT Bunga Kelana 3 on Tuesday in Singapore. The cargo ship spilled about 18,000 barrels of crude oil after a collision off the city-state's coast. AP PHOTO

Baseball fan pleads guilty for sick move

8 PHILADELPHIA A 21-year-old New Jersey man pleaded guilty Tuesday to vomiting on another spectator and his 11-year-old daughter in the stands during a Philadelphia Phillies game.

Matthew Clemmens, of Cherry Hill, N.J., pleaded guilty to one count each of simple assault, disorderly conduct and harassment for his conduct during an April 14 Phillies-Nationals game at Citizens Bank Park.

Clemmens stuck his fingers down his throat and vomited on Michael Vangelo, an off-duty Easton police captain, and one of Vangelo's daughters after Clemmens' companion was ejected from the park, Assistant District Attorney Patrick Doyle said.

In exchange for Clemmens' guilty pleas, charges including reckless endangerment and corruption of minors were dropped. Neither Clemmens nor his parents commented Tuesday.

THE DIGIT

$2,001

A man who won a $2,001 slot machine jackpot in Erie, Pa., must forfeit the winnings and will be charged with trespassing, because he had previously banned himself from casinos under a state program for problem gamblers.

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2010 **Finals**

STANLEY CUP ★ GAME 1 PREVIEW

ICE GAUGE

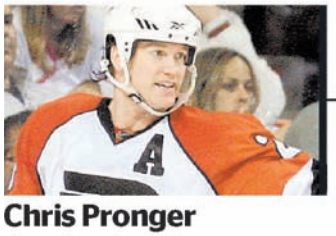
WHAT'S THE TALK OF HAWKEYTOWN TODAY?

Duncan's teeth
30 shots of anesthesia to the mouth in two days? No thanks.

Mane event
The Art Institute lions get their Blackhawks helmets Wednesday.

Philadelphia fans
They know how to celebrate, er, fight.

Joy of six
In town to play Cubs, Dodgers GM picks Hawks in 6.



Chris Pronger
Hey, big guy, let me introduce you to Big Buff.

Hossa
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Hossa hopes third time's a charm

Chicago Tribune

Most everywhere he goes these days, someone is there to remind Marian Hossa he's about to play in his third consecutive Stanley Cup finals while he's still in search of an elusive championship.

The Blackhawks winger heard it again while on the ice during Tuesday's practice, and this time the message came from a most interested party in coach Joel Quenneville.

"We had a small talk," Hossa said. "He said, 'This is the third time and so you know what they say ...' I said, 'I know, Joel, I've heard it so many times from different people so I really hope so.' "

According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Hossa will become the first player in NHL history to play in three consecutive Stanley Cup finals for three different teams when the Hawks take on the Flyers in Game 1 on Saturday night at the United Center.

"It is an interesting fact but it's nothing I really think about," Hossa said. "The main focus is to try to win the series. That's my goal."

It's a goal Hossa has failed to achieve in his two previous finals appearances, first with Pittsburgh in 2008 and then Detroit in '09.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

IS HE BUFF ENOUGH?

PHILADELPHIA MIGHT TRY TO NEUTRALIZE DUSTIN BYFUGLIEN WITH CHRIS PRONGER

Chicago Tribune

For two rounds now, the 257-pound riddle of Dustin Byfuglien has baffled opponents, no one sure how to dislodge the burly Blackhawks winger from his perch near the crease and stop his onslaught of scoring.

But Patrick Kane imagines he knows the Flyers' Stanley Cup finals approach already.

"I think Pronger and Buff will probably be seeing a lot of each other," the Hawks winger said Tuesday with a laugh.

"Pronger" is Chris Pronger, the stalwart veteran defenseman whose stature precedes him, physically and otherwise. He stands 6 feet, 6 inches, weighs 220 pounds, has played in 1,268 games between the regular season and playoffs and won a Cup with the Ducks in 2007.

If Byfuglien is a mystery to the 35-year-old Pronger, it's only spelling-wise. Still, the Hawks winger doesn't believe the Flyers will alter their defense too much to try to stop him.

"I don't think anyone's going to go out of their way to do anything different than what they already do," Byfuglien said. "Everyone's got a job out there and [they'll] just stick to it."

Kane already sees the Hawks' counterpunch.

"If it's Pronger [or] one of their big guys on him, that's probably good for myself and [Jonathan] Toews because it opens up some space for us," Kane said.

BYFUGLIEN VS. PRONGER

In anticipation of this matchup, here's — what else?—RedEye's faceoff of the two behemoths.

8 goals, 2 assists. Four of his goals have been game-winners.	**LET'S TALK STATS**	4 goals, 10 assists.

WINNER: Byfuglien. In the playoffs, he's been huge. No pun intended.

One fight this season, according to **hockeyfights.com.**	**DROP THE GLOVES**	One fight this season, according to **hockeyfights.com.**

WINNER: We'll call it a draw.

Big Buff, Buffy	**NICKNAME**	Prongs

WINNER: Byfuglien. Come on, Prongs? Wow, pretty imaginative. Not.

6-foot-4, 257 pounds, 25 years old	**LET'S GET PHYSICAL**	6-foot-6, 220 pounds, 35 years old

WINNER: Byfuglien. Prongs, pick on someone your own age.

GETTY IMAGES

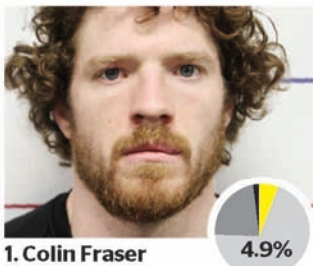
OVERALL WINNER

Byfuglien. By a landslide, the man who singlehandedly befuddled Vancouver and is a pain in everyone's crease.

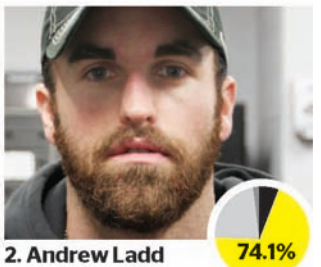
Hey, beardman

DAY 43

Blackhawks Colin Fraser and Andrew Ladd and RedEye's Jimmy Greenfield and Alex Quigley have been battling for top playoff beard for 43 days now. Who's winning? Text "**beard**" followed by the number of your choice to **87708** or go to **bit.ly/heybeardman**.

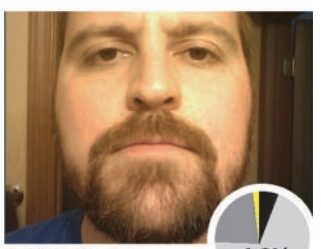


1. Colin Fraser 4.9%



2. Andrew Ladd 74.1%

3. Jimmy Greenfield 19.4%



4. Alex Quigley 1.6%

SHOW US YOURS?

Go to **beardathon.com/blackhawks** and submit your pic—and raise money for charity too.

five on five

Flight plan

The Blackhawks and Flyers are set to battle for the Stanely Cup. So who invited this impostor? **redeyechicago.com/5on5**.

TOPIC	TRACY SWARTZ twitter.com/tracyswartz	SCOTT BOLOHAN twitter.com/scottbolohan	DR. FANTASY redeyesports@tribune.com	JEN PATTERSON csnchicago.com/pages/blog_patterson	STANLEY'S CUP redeyechicago.com/5on5
1 What do you know about the Philadelphia Flyers?	Sarah Palin at an '08 Flyers game helped put Philly on the map as the capital of Canada.	Duncan Keith's mouth would be their best goalie.	Their logo somewhat resembles one of Lady Gaga's eyes.	That their fans are ruthless.	They are jinxed after they touched my buddy the Prince of Wales Trophy. He told me all about it.
2 Now that we know the matchup, what's your early Stanley Cup finals prediction?	4-3, Hawks. "Lost" taught me it takes six years to kill a Flyer.	Eric Lindros is probably going to get a concussion.	Blackhawks in 5. Print that. Oh wait, you did.	I'm knocking on wood, 'nuff said!	I get up close and personal with Andrew Ladd's lumberjack beard.
3 What injury could the Blackhawks suffer next?	Like their suburban dad fans, they could have hip problems.	They could stare at Jonathan Toews' beard and injure their eyes.	They could get hit by the pesky red shell from Mario Kart.	Loss of hearing from the national anthem.	A hernia from hoisting yours truly.
4 Why did Jake Peavy call the Cleveland series a "must-win"?	To kick Cleveland while it's down. America's been doing it for years.	He wants to show LeBron that Chicago is competitive.	Jake's still using his National League calendar, which inexplicably is three months ahead.	'Cause he doesn't want to see his teammates traded away.	Because the Indians are even worse than the Sox.
5 What could the Cubs learn from the Blackhawks?	If it bleeds, it leads.	Play at Wrigley only in January.	Perhaps the Cubs could give playing on ice a whirl.	That there is nothing to celebrate till you win the championship.	Too easy: How to win.

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TUESDAY'S SCORES
» Cubs 3, L.A. Dodgers 0
» Cleveland 7, White Sox 3

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
» Cubs vs. L.A. Dodgers
» White Sox at Cleveland

AP

HERO OF THE DAY
Ryan Dempster
He got his first win since April 23 thanks to seven strikeouts, no runs allowed and one walk in eight innings.

DUD OF THE DAY
Jake Peavy
The Peavy we saw at the beginning of the season was back, allowing six runs on eight hits. He did strike out five, however.

NUCCIO DINUZZO/ TRIBUNE

PIC OF THE DAY
Ball Hawks
Patrick Kane (from left), Jonathan Toews, Brian Campbell and Adam Burish take in Tuesday's Cubs-Dodgers game at Wrigley Field.

THE DIGIT
2,713 Number of hits for Omar Vizquel in his 22-year career

QUOTE OF THE DAY
"They're definitely not making me look good."
– Sox pitcher **Mark Buehrle** on the owner of a Facebook account in his name

Jackson
GETTY IMAGES

PHIL SAYS NO

JACKSON HAS 'NO DESIRE AT ALL' TO COACH BULLS

PHOENIX A cagey Phil Jackson said Tuesday he has "no desire at all" to return to Chicago to coach the Bulls, though would "like to have a vodka" with the new owner of the Nets.

The L.A. Lakers coach addressed two reports by ESPN that the Bulls and Nets have worked through back channels to gauge his interest, saying those channels haven't reached him.

Jackson, who has coached teams to 10 NBA titles, is on the final year of his contract with the Lakers and has said there was "a 90 percent" chance he either would return to the team for an 11th season or would retire. His comment on the Nets referred to the billionaire new owner of the franchise, Russian Mikhail Prokhorov.

"I'd like to have a, you know, vodka with him at some point," Jackson said. "He seems like a very interesting young man."

LEBRON WATCH
36
DAYS UNTIL NBA FREE AGENCY

When someone pointed out that the Nets won 12 games this season, 45 fewer than his Lakers, Jackson said, "I've never lived in Brooklyn, or Newark, so ..." He didn't end the sentence.

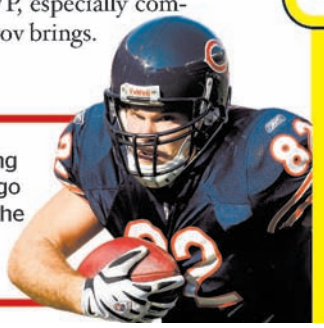
Pressed to say that it would be the Lakers or nothing next season, the 64-year-old Jackson said, "I have trouble making commitments," a response that drew a big laugh from reporters at the coach's pregame news conference before the Lakers met the Phoenix Suns in Game 4 of the Western Conference finals.

He added, though, that "the probabilities are great" that he would coach the Lakers if he coaches at all.

Jackson's coaching future is a subplot to the high-stakes competition to lure free agent LeBron James. There is no doubt that Jackson as coach would be a significant lure for the NBA's MVP, especially combined with the big money Prokhorov brings.

» Break out the parkas! NFL owners have voted to put the 2014 Super Bowl in the new $1.6 billion Meadowlands stadium that will be home to the N.Y. Jets and Giants. It does not have a roof, and the game will be in February.

» Bears tight end Greg Olsen (right) said there's nothing to read into his meeting with Terrell Owens at a Chicago club. Olsen said on WMVP-AM 1000 on Tuesday that the two Bears didn't try to recruit Owens and that they didn't even talk about football.



triple dog dare

WHIZZER
twitter.com/redeyesportsguy

The L.A. Times reports no one has contacted Phil Jackson to talk about coaching vacancies. Yeah, he doesn't take my calls. Here now, my picks.

Cubs vs. L.A. Dodgers
7:05 p.m. WGN
1 **Dodgers 7, Cubs 3**
Tom Gorzelanny takes it on the chin—instead of the hand—this time.

White Sox at Cleveland
11:05 a.m. WGN
2 **Sox 6, Indians 3**
Sox keep beating up on the hapless Indians.

Minnesota vs. N.Y. Yankees
6:10 p.m. ESPN2
3 **Twins 5, Yankees 3**
Twinkies are 14-7 at their new field.

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To challenge Whizzer, go to **redeyechicago.com/whizzer** or text "**whiz**" followed by your picks to **87708**. Don't forget your name.

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metromix

METROMIX.COM
Nepalese and Indian spot Cumin opened 10 days ago in Wicker Park. Read our First Look and check out photos at **metromix.com**.

10 new restaurants

Cookies, pretzels, muffins and more sweet treats in May

By M. Kathleen Pratt, Erin Brereton and Erin Sarris

NEW ON THE SCENE: DINING

With a sweet lineup of new bakeries—one dedicated entirely to cookies—opening their doors, May was a good month for anyone with a sweet tooth or carb cravings.

Cookie Bar
DAN PETERSON PHOTOS FOR METROMIX

Cookie Bar
2475 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-0300

This Lincoln Park bakery hardly needs an introduction—the name says it all. The focus is old-fashioned cookies with fresh twists, and you can expect 18 kinds daily. Look for new takes on the tried-and-true chocolate chip cookie, plus more exotic flavors such as cardamom-orange blossom, milk chocolate chip-ginger, dairy free chocolate chip (top right) and black sesame.

Kim & Scott's Cafe Twist
2218 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-281-3634

It's almost impossible to order a pretzel-free dish at this Lincoln Park spot from the owners of Kim & Scott's Gourmet Pretzels. Located just blocks from where Kim and Scott Holstein started their baked pretzel business in the mid-'90s, the casual bakery and cafe serves salads topped with pretzel croutons, sandwiches on pretzels and pretzel rolls, egg-and-cheese stuffed breakfast pretzels, and more. Got a DIY streak? Twist and decorate your own pretzel and have it baked on the spot.

Hendrickx Belgian Bread Crafter
100 E. Walton St. 312-649-6717

This Gold Coast bakery takes bread and sweets seriously, focusing strictly on Belgian baked goods, including square-topped dark chocolate muffins and white chocolate bread. Don't miss the hearty Belgian country bread, which takes eight hours to make and can be purchased by the slice or quarter-loaf if you're not up for a full loaf.

Act One Cafe
1330 W. Morse Ave. 773-381-4550

Fuel up before the show at this pub-like eatery adjoining the soon-to-open Mayne Stage music venue in Rogers Park. Chef Jimmy Madla (Coobah) offers contemporary American eats—think chicken liver mousse with spiced cherry and port jelly, seared scallops with garlic-brown butter sauce, and Dietzler Farm hanger steak—accompanied by plenty of pre-show tipples.

A'Cappella Bistro
1301 S. Michigan Ave. 312-922-0600

Aiming to fill the role of "friendly neighborhood bistro" for its South Loop neighbors, this casual BYOB debuted with a menu of inexpensive, home-style eats. The day starts with a familiar selection of eggs, pancakes and omelets; lunch and dinner menus continue in the same hearty vein with entrees such as chicken with garlic and herbs and maple-glazed pork chops.

MORE MAY OPENINGS:

»» **Sushi Para M** (1633 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-252-6828), a Bucktown addition to the expanding Sushi Para family of restaurants, best known for all-you-can-eat sushi

»» **Cloud 9** (604 W. Belmont Ave. 773-857-1255), a first for Lakeview and Chicago, dealing exclusively in Taiwanese snow ice, or xue-hua-bing

»» **I Dream of Falafel** (112 W. Monroe St. 312-263-4363), a second Loop location of the efficient but oddly-named Mediterranean quick-serve

»» **El Llano** (4011 N. Elston Ave. 773-866-9500), an Irving Park sibling to the popular North Center Colombian spot of the same name

»» **Craves Cafe** (4431 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-481-2337), a low-key family-owned spot dishing out standard cafe fare as well as Argentinean and Spanish specialties in Jefferson Park

M. KATHLEEN PRATT IS THE METROMIX DINING PRODUCER. ERIN BRERETON AND ERIN SARRIS ARE METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

THE COUNTDOWN THE LATEST ETAS ON COMING-SOON SPOTS

JUNE 1
Epic Burger
"Mindful burgers" in the North and Clybourn big-box zone

SECOND WEEK OF JUNE
Chikurin Sushi & Asian Cuisine
Sushi and pan-Asian in Wicker Park

One. Six One
Global tapas in Little Italy

EARLY TO MID-JUNE
Pork Shoppe
"Boutique barbecue" (and bourbon) in Avondale

MID-JUNE
Black Dog Gelato
A permanent home in Ukrainian Village for Jessie Oloroso's fab gelatos

MID- TO LATE JUNE
Girl & the Goat
Stephanie Izard's much-anticipated West Loop restaurant

La Boulangerie
Parisian-style bakery and cafe in Logan Square

WEEK OF JUNE 28
Chizakaya
Japanese-style izakaya in Lakeview

Calabruzzi's Cafe
Casual Italian eats in Bridgeport

LATE JUNE
Letizia's
Logan Square bakery-slash-wine bar from the folks behind Enoteca Roma and Letizia's Natural Bakery

Meli Cafe on Grand
River North outpost of Greektown's popular breakfast and lunch spot

Stax Cafe
Pancakes in Little Italy

»» Find lots more summer openings at **metromix.com**

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$3.50 STOLI PEACH DRINKS
$5 ALL BOMBS
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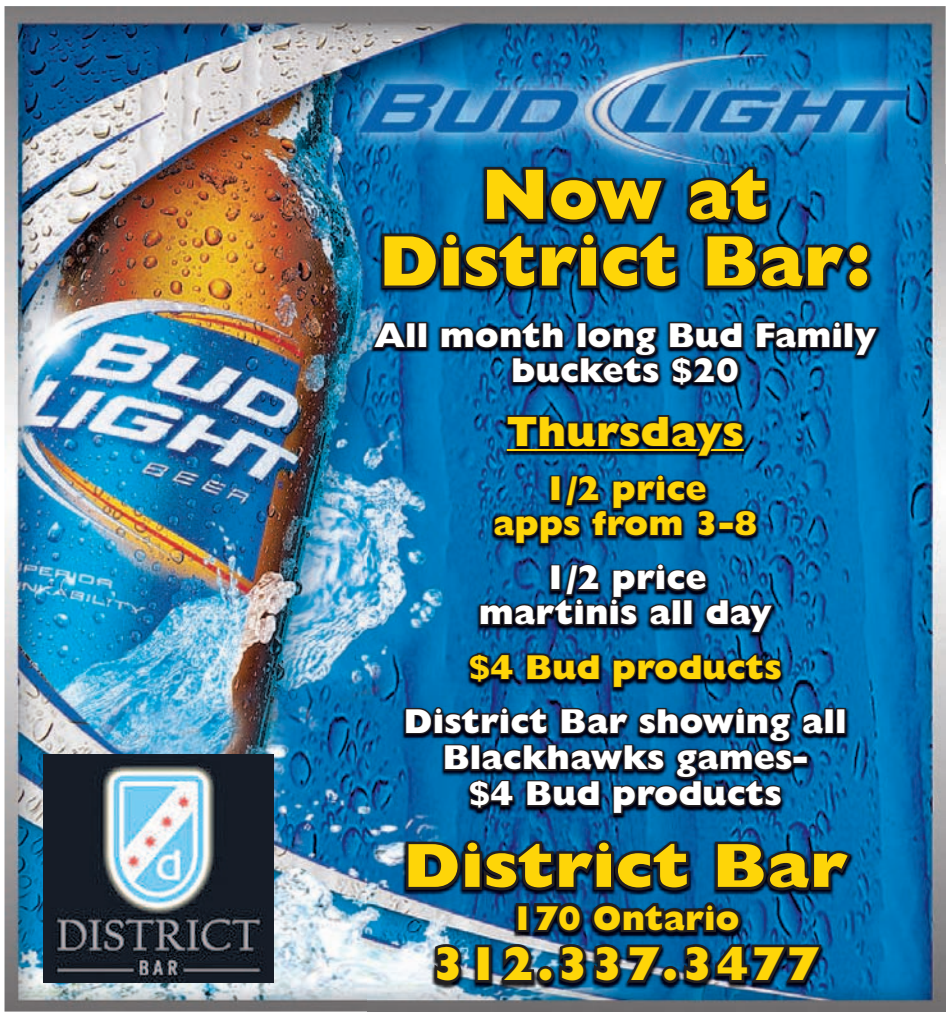

Metromix lunch deals

312 CHICAGO
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri.: $25 three-course lunch; 136 N. La Salle St. 312-696-2420.

BIG JONES
11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri.: $20 three-course lunch; 5347 N. Clark St. 773-275-5725.

BLACKBIRD
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; $22 three-course lunch; 619 W. Randolph St. 312-715-0708.

CARNIVALE
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thu.: $19 three-course lunch; 702 W. Fulton St. 312-850-5005.

LA MADIA
11:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m. daily: $15 three-course lunch; 59 W. Grand Ave. 312-329-0400.

EPIC
Sun.: $39 three-course dinner; 112 W. Hubbard St. 312-222-4940.

DINING DEALS THROUGH SUNDAY

ADOBO GRILL WICKER PARK
4:30-6 p.m. Wed.-Fri.: $1 tacos, $2-$3 assorted appetizers in the bar; 2005 W. Division St. 773-252-9990.

CAFE SELMARIE
Wed.: Half-price bottles of wine with entree purchase; 4 p.m. Thu.: $22 three-course dinner; 4729 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-989-5595.

JOEY'S BRICKHOUSE
Wed.: $3 24-ounce drafts, $15 surf and turf. Surf and turf includes homemade barbecue ribs, rock shrimp and napa slaw; Thu.: $5 martinis, $15 fried chicken dinner. Dinner comes with mashed potatoes and gravy; Fri.: $15 bottles of red or white house wine; Sat.: $1 drinks, $15 bottles of red or white house wine, $12 all-you-can-eat family-style brunch (10 a.m.-2 p.m.); Sun.: $5 24-ounce Long Island iced teas; 1258 W. Belmont Ave. 773-296-1300.

KODA BISTRO
Wed.: $5.75 martinis; 5 p.m. Wed.-Sun.: $24-$28 three-course dinner. Menu changes monthly; 10352 S. Western Ave. 773-445-5632.

LA TACHE
Wed.: Half-price martinis; Thu.: $10 burger with a beer; Fri.: $16.95 all-you-can-eat fish fry with frites; 1475 W. Balmoral Ave. 773-334-7168.

LE COLONIAL
5 p.m. Wed.: Date night. $50 per couple for shared dinner and two glasses of wine. Includes a choice of two appetizers, a tasting portion of two entrees and a dessert to share; 937 N. Rush St. 312-255-0088.

MACELLO
Wed., Sun.: Half-price wines from the Puglia region; 6:30 p.m. Wed.: Tour of Puglia. Sample red or white wine flights and appetizers from the Italian region. Additional specials include $6 personal pizzas. $12; 1235 W. Lake St. 312-850-9870.

MK
Wed.-Sun.: $45 tasting menu; Wed.-Thu., Sun.: 10-25 percent off wine list; Wed.: Wine on Wednesdays. $25 for three glasses of wine and three menu tastes; 868 N. Franklin St. 312-482-9179.

QUARTINO
Wed.-Sun.: $5 quartino of house red or white wine; 626 N. State St. 312-698-5000.

SCOOZI!
Wed.: $5 pizzas in the bar, $5 bottles of wine with carry-out orders; Thu.-Sun.: $5 bottles of wine with carry-out orders; 410 W. Huron St. 312-943-5900.

SWEETS & SAVORIES
Wed.: $10 Kobe burgers; Wed.-Sun.: $29 three-course meal and no corkage fee for BYOB. Pick any appetizer, entree and dessert off the menu; 1534 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-281-6778.

VIET BISTRO
Wed., Sun.: $3 Tecate bottles, $6 specialty martinis; Wed., Fri.-Sun.: 15 percent discount (food only) for college students and faculty with ID; noon-3 p.m. Fri.-Sun.: $7.50 all lunch dishes; 1346 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-5720.

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6TH ANNUAL

In memory of St. Jude patient, Nicky Mailliard, RA Sushi will donate all proceeds from the week-long sale of select menu items to help fund cancer research and treatment.

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RANDOM ACTS OF GREATNESS

5 THINGS WE'RE LOVING THIS WEEK

1. The **sazerac** ($10) at Kith & Kin (1119 W. Webster Ave.). It's made with Michter's rye whiskey and a half-ounce of Jean-Luc Pasquet cognac, which adds some roundness to the drink and nods to the original recipe, which was brandy-based (versus today's rye whiskey version). The glass gets a traditional Herbsaint rinse, and Peychaud's and Angostura bitters are used for aromatics. —M. KATHLEEN PRATT

3. The heartbreaking "**Summer in Genoa**." You've got one more chance to see it: 8 p.m. Thursday at Gene Siskel Film Center (164 N. State St.). It's got more tension and feeling than "Robin Hood" and "Iron Man 2" combined. —MATT PAIS

2. The **mango-tamarind margarita** at El Tapatio (3400 N. Ashland Ave.). The $7.50 large is plenty big, but there's also the $11.95 jumbo size for the very ambitious. —LISA ARNETT

4. Framed vintage advertisements from Hyde Park businesses at Seven Ten Lanes (1055 E. 55th St.). It's a great blast from the past while you chow down on a bowl of jambalaya ($12.95). —LISA BALDE

5. The **ridiculous steals at Ragstock** (812 W. Belmont Ave.). We snagged three shirts, a pair of sunglasses, a tie and a jacket for $29. And did I mention the jacket not only fit perfectly but it also had my first name embroidered on it? Score! —ERNEST WILKINS

Join the randomness!

What are you loving this week? Log onto **metromix.com** to send us your own Random Acts of Greatness. You just might spot your pick in a future issue.

WEDNESDAY DEALS

THE 44TH WARD DINNER PARTY
$3 Long Island iced teas, $5 select sandwiches; 3542 N. Halsted St. 773-857-2911.

BENNY'S CHOP HOUSE
5 p.m.: 25 cent oysters, $6 Moscow Mule and Horse's Neck cocktails, $5 Porterhouse Oyster Stout bottles; 444 N. Wabash Ave. 312-626-2444.

BUCKTOWN PUB
$1 select shots, $3.50 Stella Artois drafts; 1658 W. Cortland Ave. 773-394-9898.

CELTIC CROWN
$3 select drafts, $4 bombs and Guinness drafts, $8.99 full-slab ribs, half-price select cocktails; 4301 N. Western Ave. 773-588-1110.

CORNER 41 BAR & GRILL
$5 martinis; 4138 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-327-3500.

DIVISION ALE HOUSE
$3 drafts, $5 bombs, 25 percent off salads; 1942 W. Division St. 773-384-6886.

F. O'MAHONY'S
$6 martinis, $11 Miller Lite pitchers, $1 mini-burgers, trivia 8:30 p.m.; 3701 N. Broadway. 773-549-0226.

THE GLOBE PUB
$4 Carlsberg drafts, $7 chicken curry, music; 1934 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-3757.

HARRIGAN'S
$2 Miller Lite drafts, $3 Jameson shots, pub quiz 8 p.m.; 2816 N. Halsted St. 773-248-5933.

LINCOLN STATION
$2.50 Metropolitan pints, half-price glasses of wine; 2432 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-472-8100.

MCFADDEN'S
$2 cans, $3 well drinks, $5 bombs, 25 cent wings; 1206 N. State Pkwy. 312-475-9450.

MOONSHINE
$4 microbrew drafts, $5 Stoli cocktails; 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686.

THE ORBIT ROOM
$3 well cocktails, $4 Stella Artois drafts, $8 nachos; 2959 N. California Ave. 773-588-8540.

PITCHFORK FOOD & SALOON
Half-price glasses and bottles of wine; 2922 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-866-2010.

SCARLET
Chicago Work Group DJs. $3 Miller Lite bottles, $4 Svedka flavors cocktails and PBR tallboys, $5 select martinis, $7 Stoli martinis; 3320 N. Halsted St. 773-348-1053.

SILVER CLOUD
$15 vodka lemonade pitchers; 1700 N. Damen Ave. 773-489-6212.

TOONS
$3 drafts and pineapple vodka shots, $4 cheeseburgers; 3857 N. Southport Ave. 773-935-1919.

VICTORY LIQUORS
$2 Miller Lite bottles, $3 Jameson shots, half-price burgers; 2610 N. Halsted St. 773-348-5600.

WELLS ON WELLS
$3 Corona, Corona Light and Pacifico bottles, $3 Bushmills shots; 1617 N. Wells St. 312-944-1617.

WITTS
$4 Jameson shots, $5 bombs, $12.50 domestic buckets, trivia 8 p.m.; 2913 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-528-7032.

ZELLA
$2.50 Miller Lite and Coors Light drafts and bottles, $3.50 Three Olives cocktails, $4 glasses of house wine; 1983 N. Clybourn Ave. 773-549-2910.

Bar-guments

SETTLING AGE-OLD, BAR-BASED DISAGREEMENTS ONE ARGUMENT AT A TIME

What is a bar-gument, you say? For as long as there have been watering holes, there have been disagreements. Some prefer martinis with gin, some with vodka, for example. Well, Bar-guments is here to settle some longstanding pub conflicts once and for all.

This week: What's the best live music option in a bar: a well-stocked jukebox or a live band?

LIVE BAND

Now that every jukebox in the lower 48 can be hooked up to the Internet, there's a really good chance you'll end up hearing a big ol' block of Ke$ha and (insert well-groomed R&B star here). A live band can suck, but for every local crapfest you get a quality band that makes you dance. There's also the off chance that this time they actually might play "Freebird," and who would want to miss that? —ERNEST WILKINS

VS

JUKEBOX

Hmm, a wide variety of great recorded songs that set the perfect bar mood, or pathetic live renditions of "Livin' On a Prayer" and "I Gotta Feeling" performed like an "I came in 4,000th place on 'American Idol' " convention? Tough call. Music venues that are also bars are great. Bars that feature mediocre bands don't offer a live music experience, just a distraction. Besides: The jukebox never needs a break. —MATT PAIS

LOG ON TO **METROMIX.COM** TO TAKE A SIDE.

Next week: **Are bathroom attendants necessary or a nuisance?**

Last week's results: **Which is the king of the well drinks?**

51% Rum & Coke

49% Cranberry and vodka

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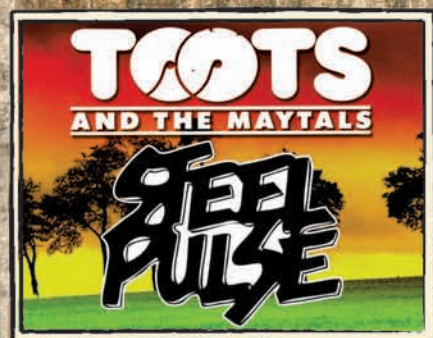

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SATURDAY, JUNE 5 17+

6-18 *Patty Griffin* Buddy Miller - 17+
6-23 *Miyavi* - 17+
6-30 *Cyndi Lauper* David Rhodes - 17+
7-16 *Johnny Lang* Moreland & Arbuckle - 17+
7-17 *Jordin Sparks* - All Ages
7-27 *Gaslight Anthem* Chamberlain, Tim Barry - All Ages
7-30 *The Dan Band* - 17+
8-4 *Ted Nugent* Val Halla - 17+
8-9 *Summer Slaughter Tour 2010* Decapitated, The Faceless, All Shall Perish, The Red Chord, Veil of Maya, Cephalic Carnage, Decrepit Birth, Carnifex, Animals As Leaders, Vital Remains - All Ages
8-13 8-14 *Hanson* With Special Guest: Rooney - All Ages
8-20 *STS9* 2 day pass available! - 17+
8-21 *George Thorogood & The Destroyers* Eddie Shaw - 21+
8-21 *Bassnectar* Official STS9 after-show! - 17
8-27 *Nick Cannon* - All Ages
8-28 *I Am Fest* Masons Case, Ryan Powers Band, Laser Love, The Flavor Savers, Jack in Space and more! - All Ages
9-5 *Crowded House* - 17

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FRIDAY, JUNE 11 ALL AGES!

SATURDAY, JUNE 12 ALL AGES!

JUNE 17 17+

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music

Moving Legends

Buddy Guy shares what to expect at his South Loop institution's new location

Buddy Guy
DAN PETERSON PHOTOS FOR METROMIX

By Matt Pais

When Buddy Guy opened his South Loop blues club, Buddy Guy's Legends, in 1989, people told him the place was too big compared with the city's many other blues clubs. In 2010, with only a fraction of those clubs still open and Guy's spot a well-established tourist destination, Guy says, "Now they tell me it's too small."

After more than a decade of searching for a new space, the legendary guitarist's institution is moving slightly north, from 754 S. Wabash Ave. to 700 S. Wabash Ave. (Expected opening is within the next week.) There, it will occupy 16,000 square feet on two floors, partly occupying the space that formerly held diverse music venue HotHouse. The new Legends expects the same capacity downstairs (about 400) but has room for about 200 upstairs, where people can hang out for no cover. Around the bar is more space for Guy's massive collection of blues memorabilia; on the ground level remains the same howlin', first-come-first-served blues shows, now on a bigger stage with better sightlines.

By phone, while making beans and rice at his Orland Park home, Guy, 73, who came to Chicago from Louisiana in 1957, highlighted what you should know about the new club and Chicago's blues scene. Also worth noting: Can anyone else make a cowboy-hat-Hawaiian-shirt combo look badass?

»» In 21 years, Guy says there haven't been 21 days he's been in Chicago and not at Legends. "People are surprised. 'I can't believe you sittin' here!' I say, 'What do you mean? I own the place!' You can't walk up to Eric Clapton and Mick Jagger sitting [at a] bar drinking a beer and start a conversation with 'em. They don't do that. They don't even take pictures. They don't even give you autographs no more. I sit down at the bar, autograph my shirts; I give you my guitar picks; I say cheese so much and smile to take a picture, man, that my jaws automatically get tired when I see someone come in with a camera."

»» Some smoky ceiling tile from the old spot is used over the front bar to maintain a lived-in, smoky feel in the polished, smoke-free new spot. "We have had blues clubs, and what [a lot of people] talk about is the smoke. ... I even had people laughing, [saying] before I open to the public, I just might put two barbecue grills in there and smoke it so they can say, 'OK, it do smell smoky.' "

»» Why he didn't move the new location farther south, like his old Checkerboard Lounge on 43rd Street: "The public transportation don't run at night no more like it used to. It used to run 24/7. I used to have to catch the bus with my guitar and amplifier, man, at [4 a.m.]. I never had to wait on the corner more than 10 minutes for a bus. You know they don't run like that no more. So you can't [drink and drive], and you can't walk from the South Side to the Loop. Tourists can take a $3.50/$5 cab ride [to the West and South Loop], but if you gotta pay $60-$80 for a cab ride to go all the way to 79th street from downtown at the Hilton and $65 to come back, well you ain't got much money left to spend in Buddy Guy's Legends."

»» What people say about the club: "Well, so far up until now when people

FASTFWD

THIS WEEK'S TOP 5 LIVE SHOWS

1. The Tallest Man on Earth
10 p.m. Fri. at Lincoln Hall
Because you can't see Bob Dylan right now.

2. Brian Jonestown Massacre
8 p.m. Sun. at Metro
What will Anton Newcombe do next?

3. Josh Rouse
8 p.m. Thu. at Lincoln Hall
Like lying on the beach in Spain. Sorta.

4. 50 Cent
7 p.m. Sun. at UIC Pavilion
Remember when people talked about him?

JUNE TUNES

Itchin' to plan your music itinerary for next month? Get a sneek peek at Matt Pais' top shows in the June Concert Guide at **metromix.com**.

talk about Legends they say it's the most greatest blues club in the world. So, I don't know, I try to make it like that. I'm going to try to make this one hold that tradition because you can get off the plane at the airport and say, 'Take me to Legends,' and I think 90 percent of the cabdrivers know where to go."

»» What the blues means to him: "It means life to me. I didn't go to the Army and I didn't finish high school. My mother taken a stroke when I graduated to ninth grade and that was the end of that, because I'm the oldest boy and [living] on a farm. ... I owe my life to the blues. And if I had to do it again, I'd do the same things again."

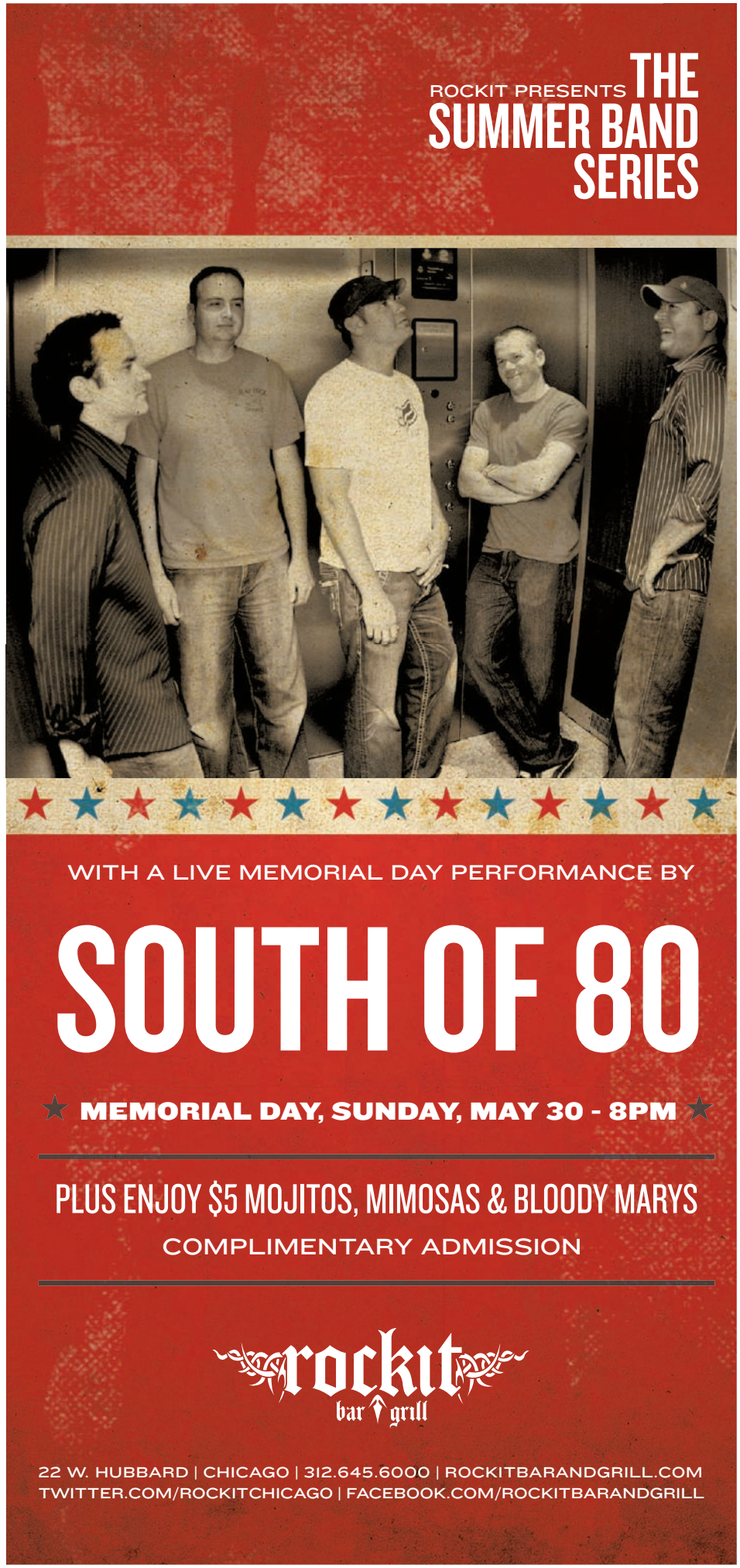
MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MUSIC AND MOVIES PRODUCER.
MPAIS@TRIBUNE.COM

AT-A-GLANCE

Buddy Guy's Legends
Where: 700 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-1190
What: Live blues seven nights a week (21+ after 8 p.m.) and noon-2 p.m. Monday-Friday (all ages, free)
Cover charge: $10 Sunday-Thursday, $15 Friday-Saturday; more for special events
Food: Kitchen opens 11 a.m. Monday-Friday, 5 p.m. Saturday, 6 p.m. Sunday; closes at midnight daily (Guy's pick: Smothered catfish, $14.95)
Drinks: Beer (12 bottles, 10 on tap) $4-$7, wine $6, cocktails $6-$8
Bonus: Some artists from Eric Clapton's Crossroads Guitar Fest (June 26 at Toyota Park) will appear at Legends. Guy won't say who or when.

5. Diana Ross
8 p.m. Thu. at Chicago Theatre
That's a lotta hair.

WANT MORE?
Take a photo tour of the new Buddy Guy's Legends at **metromix.com**.



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PLAYBOY CLUB
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JUNE 10

Patti LaBelle
live in concert
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FRIDAY
JUNE 11

WANDA SYKES
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SATURDAY
JUNE 12

Frankie Randall presents
"That's Italian"
With Vincent Falcone conducting the Big Band
Pete Barbutti
Frankie Randall
Deana Martin
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
SUNDAY
JUNE 13

ADAM LAMBERT
LIVE IN CONCERT
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
Orianthi
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
THURSDAY
JUNE 17

COMEDIANS OF
CHELSEA LATELY
FEATURING
SPECIAL GUEST CHUY FROM CHELSEA LATELY
JOHN CAPARULO
JEN KIRKMAN
BRAD WOLLACK
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
FRIDAY
JUNE 25

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
SUNDAY, JUNE 20
THE SOUL OF JAMES BROWN
SATURDAY, JUNE 26
SOCK HOP W/FABIAN & BOBBY VEE
FRIDAY, JULY 9
CHARLIE MURPHY
SATURDAY, JULY 10
DIMITRIS MITROPANOS
SATURDAY, JULY 17
DAVE KOZ & JONATHAN BUTLER
WSG - PEABO BRYSON
SUNDAY, JULY 18
CHEF DAISY MARTINEZ
FROM FOOD NETWORK
SATURDAY, JULY 24
RINGO STARR
AND HIS ALL STARR BAND
FRIDAY, JULY 30
DON RICKLES
SATURDAY, JULY 31
AL GREEN
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5
CARROT TOP
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6
TONY BENNETT
FRIDAY, AUGUST 13
RUBEN STUDDARD
CLAY AIKEN
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18
BLONDIE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 21
PAUL ANKA
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Metromix's top shows by Matt Pais

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM
If you don't think James Murphy is cool, you're not. Like, clearly. With Holy Ghost!
8 p.m. Sold out. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

APRIL SMITH AND THE GREAT PICTURE SHOW
Easy, pleasing pop. With Ornery Little Darlings.
9 p.m. $8-$10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

GLEE LIVE! IN CONCERT!: LEA MICHELE, CORY MONTEITH, AMBER RILEY, CHRIS COLFER, KEVIN MCHALE, JENNA USHKOWITZ, MARK SALLING, DIANNA AGRON, NAYA RIVERA, HEATHER MORRIS, HARRY SHUM, JR. AND DIJON TALTON
One more night to shriek.
7:30 p.m. Sold out. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Rd., Rosemont. 847-671-5100.

WEDNESDAY CONCERTS

ALFONSO PONTICELLI AND SWING GITAN
9 p.m. $6. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

ARBOGAST, OF WOLVES, REPTOIDS, THE LARROQUETTES
8:30 p.m. $10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. **housecallent.com**

BALLA KOUYATE
8:30 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
6:30 p.m. $28-$90. Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave. 312-294-3000.

COREY WILKES QUINTET, THE COLLECTIVE TRIO
8:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

DAME MYRA HESS MEMORIAL CONCERT: VIACHESLAV DINERSCHTEIN
12:15 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630.

DASH CUNNING
8 p.m. $8-$10. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. **housecallent.com**

DENISE LAGRASSA
8 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

DESIREE IRWIN AND TWINRAY
8 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

DONNIE BIGGINS, DEREK NELSON
8 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

ENANITOS VERDES
9 p.m. $38. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

ERIN MCDOUGALD
6 p.m. Free. Crimson Lounge, 333 N. Dearborn St. Hotel Sax. 312-923-2473.

EXPO 76
8:30 p.m. Free. Simon's Tavern, 5210 N. Clark St. 773-878-0894.

FRANCE JEAN-BAPTISTE AND THE BIG BAD ASS CO. BAND
11 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

FRANK CATALANO SEXTET
2 a.m. Free. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

GREG FISHMAN AND MARK COLBY
8 and 10 p.m. $5-$10. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

GUY KING
7 p.m. Free. House of Blues, Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

J.W. WILLIAMS BLUES BAND WITH PATRICIA SCOTT
9 p.m. $8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

JOANNA CONNOR
10 p.m. $10. House of Blues Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

KARMA TO BURN, ADMIRAL OF BLACK, HOWLER, WITH A GUN
9 p.m. $8. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

KOBOKU SENJU, STREIFENJUNKO, AKIYAMA/NAKAMURA DUO
9:30 p.m. $10. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

LIVE BAND KARAOKE, ONCE A PAWN, AN AESTHETIC ANAESTHETIC
8 p.m. $5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

MATTER OF FACT, PARAFEAT, SERATONIN, KARLA SUE AND THE VERY BLUE
8:30 p.m. $8. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

MAURICE VAUGHN, JIMMY BURNS BLUES BAND
9:30 p.m. $12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

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- JUNE 5TH -
HAIRBANGER'S BALL (FREE SHOW!)
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MDC, THE RESTARTS, THE NON-BELIEVERS, SEX BUNKER, MAD MINUTE
6 p.m. $10. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

MIKE FROST PROJECT
8 and 9:45 p.m. $8. Two drink minimum. Club Blujazz, 1540 W. North Ave. 773-477-6872.

MIKE SMITH QUARTET
9 p.m. $10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

MOONALICE
8 p.m. $12. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

PISTOL PETE
9:30 p.m. $5. B.L.U.E.S., 2519 N. Halsted St. 773-528-1012.

RICHIE PARDO TRIO
5 p.m. $5. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

THEE SILVER MT. ZION MEMORIAL ORCHESTRA, SHAPERS
9 p.m. $15. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2508.

TIM LOWLY ENSEMBLE, HUSBAND AND WIFE, KASPAR HAUSER
9:30 p.m. Free. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

TIM SEISSER GROUP, RABAK, GARRETH SPINN
9 p.m. Free. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-4563.

TWO FOR BRAZIL
8 and 10 p.m. $5-$10. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

WASTE BASKET, STEREOHYPE, THE NIGHT BRIGADE, SUBTLE UPROAR, DIRTY SURGEON INSURGENCY
6 p.m. $7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave.
mpshows.com

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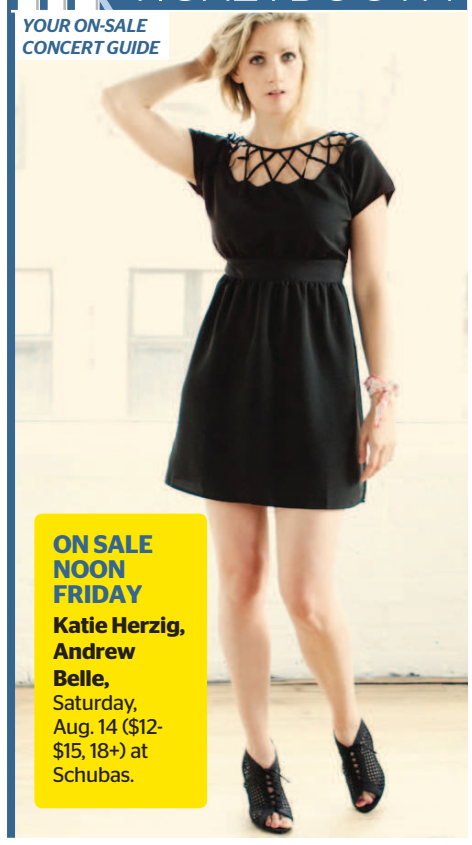
YOUR ON-SALE CONCERT GUIDE



ON SALE NOON FRIDAY
Katie Herzig, Andrew Belle, Saturday, Aug. 14 ($12-$15, 18+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY

Chris Winters Band, The Lawless Brothers, Monday, June 7 ($7, 21+) at Martyrs'.

Davenport Ed, Holiday House, They All Have Legs, Friday, July 9 ($8, 21+) at Martyrs'.

Railroad Earth, Friday, Sept. 17 ($20.50-$23, 17+) at House of Blues.

Sky White Tigers, The Locals, Evan Holmes, Monday, July 12 ($7, 21+) at Martyrs'.

ON SALE 9 A.M. FRIDAY

Cliff Johnson Band, Kraig Kenning, Friday, June 25 ($12, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

DePedro, Tuesday, July 13 ($12, 21+) at Schubas.

Pomegranates, Josh Mease, Friday, July 23 ($10, 18+) at Schubas.

The Sweetback Sisters, Wednesday, Aug. 18 ($10, 18+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 11 A.M. SATURDAY

Trevor Hall, Wednesday, Aug. 4 ($16-$20, all ages) at Space.

Liquid Soul, Friday, Aug. 27 ($15-$20, all ages) at Space.

Megon McDonough, Saturday, Aug. 14 ($15-$20, all ages) at Space.

Leon Russell, Thursday, Aug. 26 ($35-$40, all ages) at Space.

ON SALE NOW

American Motherload, Saturday, Aug. 21 ($8, 21+) at Double Door.

Boris, Russian Circles, Friday, Aug. 13 ($18, 18+) at Metro.

Dominique Young Unique, Dark Wave Disco DJs, Bald E., Saturday, June 26 ($6-$8, 18+) at Metro.

Jerry Joseph and the Jackmormons, Friday, July 16, Saturday, July 17 ($14-$16, 21+) at House of Blues Back Porch Stage.

Lucid Ground, Echo Son, Otter Petter, Katz Company, Saturday, June 12 ($9, 18+) at Metro.

Mertz, Belly, Richie August, Charlie Bro, Thursday, June 24 (free-$5, 21+) at Smart Bar.

Modern English, Sunday, July 11 ($20, 21+) at Double Door.

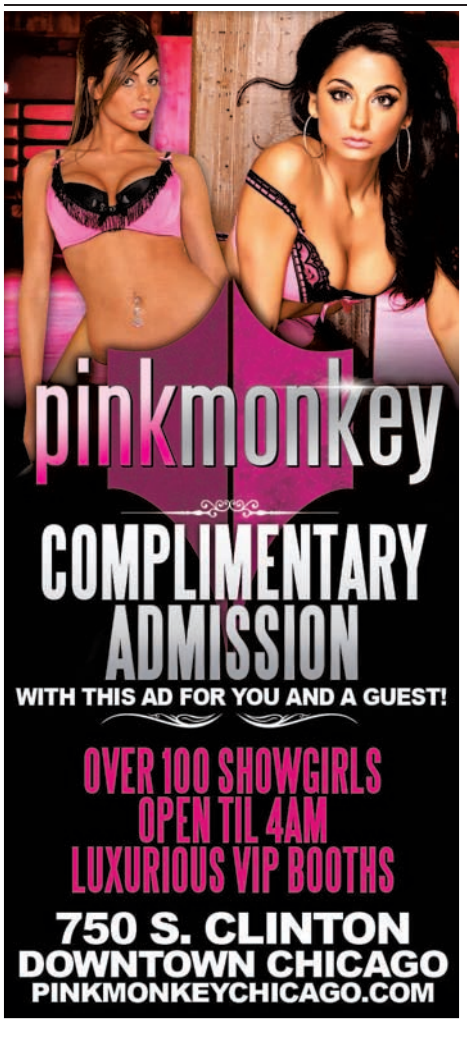
The New Deal, Saturday, Aug. 21 ($20-$25, 18+) at Metro.

Pool of Frogs, The Groundkeepers, Pet Peeve, Wednesday, Aug. 11 ($5, 21+) at Double Door.

The Sass Dragons, Sunday, July 25 ($5, 21+) at Double Door.

Taking Back Sunday, Michael Serafini, Kid Color, Sunday, June 27 (free-$3, 21+) at Smart Bar.

Zebo, Michael Serafini, Kid Color, Sunday, June 6 (free-$2, 21+) at Smart Bar.



'Force' is with us

Chicago is the newest home for Argentinean-bred spectacle

By Rebecca Palmore

Is it a bird? A plane? A Blue Man? No. It's "Fuerza Bruta: Look Up," a multimedia spectacle with a clubby feel from the creative team behind "De La Guarda," a wild, flying party show created in 1993 that awed crowds around the globe until 2006.

After seeing "De La Guarda" in New York, Broadway in Chicago president Lou Raizin decided to find a home for it locally. "I sent my wife, I sent my kids," he told us recently, "And I said, 'Tell me I'm crazy.' They came back as big a fan as I was." Finding the perfect spot took serious time—he spent nearly a year eyeing the Grand Lobby at Union Station—because of technical challenges. Finally, he got "Fuerza Bruta," the team's follow-up to "Guarda," to sign on at the Auditorium Theatre, where it's now on sale through July 25.

We caught up with Raizin and some of the performers and staff at a recent press preview and noticed that everyone we spoke to, regardless of English proficiency, had this to say: The show is superhard to describe. Here are some attempts we recorded.

ON-STAGE

Fuerza Bruta: Look Up
Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy.
When: Tuesday-Sunday; times vary
Tickets: $50-$80; 800-775-2000

Has Chicago ever seen a show like this?
Lou Raizin: People often look at performance art-type shows and say, "Blue Man [Group]." This is one of those types of experiences, but you can't characterize this in the same league. This interaction with the audience is as much of a dance party as it is a theatrical experience.

Is the show physically exhausting?
Martin Buzzo, performer: I would say no, not at all. Yes, it demands a lot of energy, but I think the director gets all these crazy performers that can't stay quiet and still. That's why we do three shows a night.

What is one thing about the show that you really love?
M.B.: There is something about the show that is alive in itself. It challenges you every night. I've been on tour for the last four or five years, and doing one show so many times is kind of crazy. We're artists. We don't like to go to work from 9 to 5. But the show takes me to a place that is amazing.

Do you get to enjoy Chicago for a while?
Liz Gonzalez, producer: I leave after the opening, because we have four companies [performing the show] at the same time. This is the old cast. We call it the "Dream Team." We brought the best [performers] to Chicago, so I don't think that I need to stay.

Did you also work on "De La Guarda"?
Tamara Levinson, performer: Yes. That show was so different than this one. That was when Diqui [James]—the director—was young and he wanted to party. To me, this is a more sophisticated version of that. I love this one.

What do you love most about it?
T.L.: The freedom that the actor has. Any show that you do, it's like, "These are your lines. This is where you stand. This is what you do." In this show, it's the opposite. What's great is that they hire you because you're you, because you have something that's unique to you. It allows you to release and let go, and not worry about anything.

REBECCA PALMORE IS THE METROMIX EVENTS AND THEATER PRODUCER. RKPALMORE@TRIBUNE.COM

10 things to know: Fuerza Bruta

1. "Fuerza Bruta" means "brute force."

2. There are no seats; you stand onstage and watch the action.

3. A translucent swimming pool is lowered over your head at times.

4. There will be nipple sightings. Don't be a prude (ugh). Or a lech (eww).

5. The official capacity of the show is 880.

6. There are strobe lights and loud noises.

7. The cast wants you to participate. You can embrace this or decline the offer.

8. There is no dialogue in the show, only action.

9. You can preserve the night for $5 in the lobby photo booth.

10. Buy early. The first 50 tickets to Tuesday-Thursday shows cost $50.

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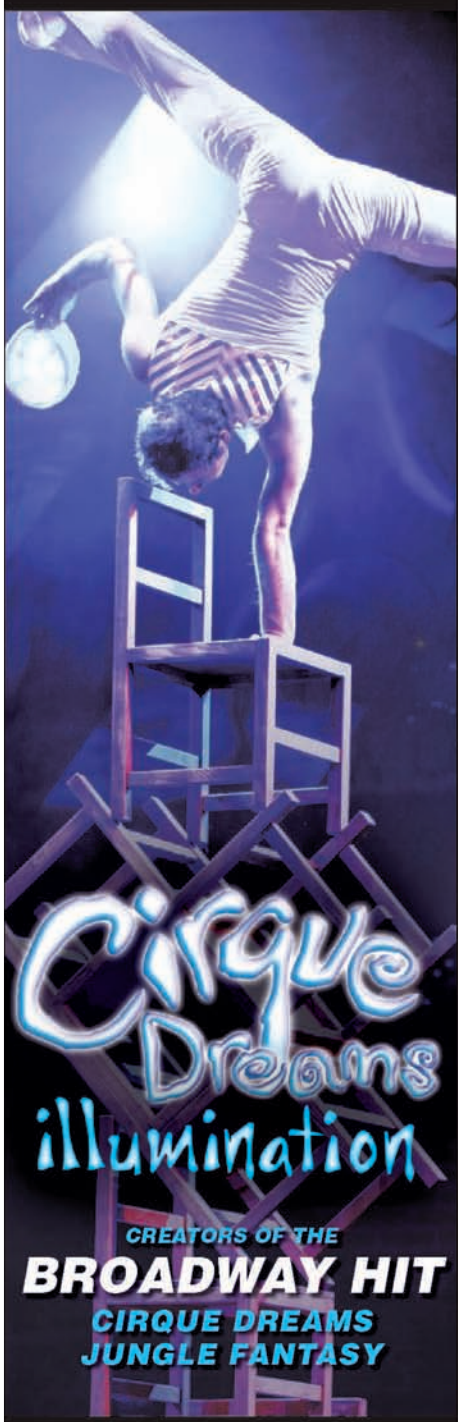

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pop

Sand & stilettos

NYC's fabulous foursome takes a magic camel ride

Newsday

If you hadn't heard that "Sex and the City 2" opens Thursday, you haven't been paying attention—to anything.

To say there's buzz about this film is a bit like saying Lady Gaga has something of a following. Or Tiger Woods and his wife had a tiff.

After six seasons on HBO, late-night reruns in syndication and a blockbuster transition to the big screen two years ago (which earned $415 million worldwide, thanks to droves of women who showed up—dressed up—at multiplexes), the four letters "SATC" spell a juggernaut franchise.

Its success is quite a feat, given that it's not an action-adventure flick. Or based on a comic book. Or starring ... guys. It's one chic, cinematic Sherman tank, driven by stars Sarah Jessica Parker, Cynthia Nixon, Kristin Davis and Kim Cattrall—four women who range in age from 44 (Nixon) to 53 (Cattrall). Just picture all those Hollywood execs shrugging their shoulders, saying, "Go figure."

"No other book, movie, TV show or music group has gone as far redefining—and expanding—the relationship between female attractiveness and age," said Caroline Weber, a fashion historian and associate professor at Barnard College and Columbia University. Basically, she says, "SATC" has "made it permissible for women past 40 to present themselves as sexy. It's a huge milestone in American popular culture."

The sequel boasts the usual "SATC" fare: sassy dialogue, fun cameos (Liza Minnelli, Miley Cyrus), crazy designer wardrobes. Yep, even in a recession. Like the first film, it woos with froth, then sneaks in the serious (touching on gay marriage, menopause and motherhood woes). Yet the sequel veers decidedly more toward romp than realism.

"Like they did in the Great Depression," said writer-director Michael Patrick King, referring to glam 1930s flicks, "I thought Hollywood should take people on a big vacation that maybe they couldn't afford themselves."

That means ditching "The City" for a road trip to Abu Dhabi. Sort of. The Manhattan shoots were mobbed by devoted fans and paparazzi last year. A zoomed-in photo of Cattrall, holding a script (inadvertently revealing a snippet of dialogue) was overanalyzed by bloggers.

Morocco—where they actually shot the "Abu Dhabi" scenes—was a welcome relief.

Yet even there, they were known. "That was kind of surprising," Cattrall said. "[They] kept calling us by our characters' names."

The audience is broad. Even straight men, Parker said, are fessing up. Just a couple years ago, "at the luggage carousel, I'd get"—then she whispered—" 'I watch your show.' They'd say, 'My wife, my girlfriend, forced me.' Now they volunteer more freely the fact that occasionally they even watch it on their own."

Cynthia Nixon (from left), Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall And Kristin Davis in 'Sex and the City 2.'

WILL YOU WATCH?
RedEye columnist Kyra Kyles will not be seeing "Sex and the City 2." Why not? Check out **redeyechicago.com/kylesfiles**

The film surely will spark controversy. The poster has caused a stir, with print and online media noting the women's ruthlessly Photoshopped images. "They look like they've been molded out of wax," Weber said. "SATC" may insist women are beautiful at any age, but apparently Warner Bros. isn't so sure.

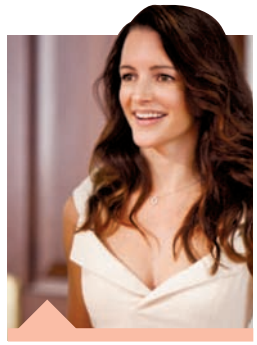
Whether a recessionary audience views the romp as refreshing or way over the top is yet to be seen. And let's just say that letting Samantha loose in a souk (an Arabian marketplace) with shorts and attitude may not grow the brand in more conservative parts of the Muslim world. (At press time, it was unclear if United Arab Emirates censors would let the movie be shown in Abu Dhabi.)

But one thing that's clear, Parker said, is "SATC's" commitment to women. Which may be needed more than ever, she said, given the slew of so-called reality shows and their rude, crude female cast members.

'SEX,' SANS THE CITY

Trekking through the sand dunes of the Sahara atop a camel wearing vintage Dior and ultrahigh stilettos was just another day on set for Sarah Jessica Parker in "Sex and the City 2." The film's stars, Parker, Kim Cattrall and Kristin Davis, admit that donning couture in the Moroccan dessert, which stands in for Abu Dhabi, had its challenges. AP

What was it like wearing these fabulous clothes in the Sahara? Sarah Jessica Parker: "I know it was hard work and I know I had long hours and I know it was hot and I know it was constantly challenging to us in the most unthinkable ways, but what I recall is this amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experience. So did we have to wear heels in the dunes of the Sahara? Yeah! Is that ridiculous? Absolutely! Did I run toward it? You bet! 'Cause when is that ever going to happen again? What a story to tell my children. And wearing literally archived Dior pieces, couture Dior pieces in the dunes of the Sahara. It's just ludicrous. Who's going to complain about it? Not me, my friend."



What was the toughest scene to shoot in couture? Kristin Davis: "We were somewhat unprepared for the souk cobblestone, which are hundreds and hundreds of years old and sloped. ... And we're wearing the highest shoes we could find for some reason that Pat Field felt was important. ... My feet and my ankles are not the same as they use to be and I have no trouble admitting that. ... There'd be times when your feet would look like somebody took out a cleaver and hit at them for a while."

How was sharing the scene with a camel? Kim Cattrall: "It was hot. But now I can say that I have ridden a camel in the Sahara and it was worth every moment of it. ... The camel has a life of its own and a mind of its own. So it was a little scary at moments. Sarah and I were on the same camel and our camel liked to go up and down a lot. So they don't call it the ship of the desert for nothing."

"There's this beacon we seem to be moving toward where women are really unkind to one another, and call each other horrible names, and there's a vernacular our ears have adapted to, which I find really objectionable," she said. "When I look at a lot of what's available on television, and see how women treat each other, it's stunning to me—it's arresting."

The success of "SATC," she said, gives her hope that there's still a place "to illustrate that women would much rather be allies than ... adversaries."

TWO NEW HOTTIES

Remember Dante, a minor character whose fondness for outdoor showers had moviegoers buzzing after the first "Sex and the City" film? The sequel offers up two new faces. NEWSDAY

British actress **ALICE EVE**—recently seen in the romantic comedy "She's Out of My League"—plays Erin, Charlotte's nubile nanny, who gains the attention of more than just the kiddies.

MAX RYAN, also a Brit, plays Euro hunk Rikard Spirit, who rides a Jeep like a surfboard, racing into Samantha's life. You may have glimpsed the salt-and-pepper-haired actor in "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen."

Sloppy seconds

fast paised

MATT PAIS
mpais@tribune.com

SEX AND THE CITY 2 (R)

Last week Shrek faced the stresses of adult responsibility and aging. Now New York's four least-witty people struggle with the same issues. So when menopause-fighting Samantha (Kim Cattrall) scores an all-expenses-paid trip to Abu Dhabi—because nothing says carefree hedonism like a trip to a largely Muslim society—it's a chance for Charlotte (Kristin Davis) to get away from the kids, Miranda (Cynthia Nixon) to forget job woes and Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker) to evade marital problems with Big Jerk (Chris Noth).

The buzz: United Arab Emirates officials didn't allow filming on location (Morocco stands in for UAE) and is considering banning "SATC 2" like it did to the surprisingly decent first film. To reiterate: The first movie wasn't bad, but "Sex" writer-director Michael Patrick King clearly doesn't realize that taking these women out of Manhattan could be as disastrous as taking the "Ocean's Eleven" guys out of Vegas.

The verdict: Suck on our sexuality, Abu Dhabi! That seems to be the message of "SATC 2," which relentlessly looks down its nose at Muslim customs. Yes, it's just a fluffy movie saluting over-consumption. That doesn't excuse the treatment of the setting, which you don't have to support to believe it shouldn't be spit on like this. In lighter matters, dreadful one-liners such as "Bedouin bath and beyond" and "Lawrence of my labia" are just one way the film embarrasses its stars while offering little in the friendship department. Women, this isn't empowerment; it's like watching Us Weekly prank call the New York Times.

MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER

YOUR TURN!

Want to review "SATC 2" for RedEye? Write a Twitter review to **twitter.com/mattpais**.

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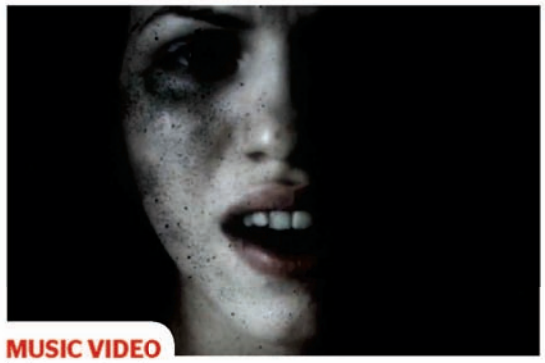

MUSIC VIDEO

'Thanatos' *Soap & Skin on YouTube*

From the moment the first piano keys reverberate, you know you are in for a spellbinding ride. Born Anja Plaschg, this Austrian enigma introduces herself with a whisper before shattering any preconceived notions you have of her with the wailing force of a banshee.

HENRY GUYER, POPMATTERS

HOME DECOR

Early bird alarm clock

$25.95 at ***paper-source.com***

If birds aren't flying around your concrete-and-steel urban zone, you can get the same effect of awakening to delightful chirping with this adorable alarm clock. The battery-powered clock has a woodsy chirping sound and glowing bird icon. No need to fumble with a tiny switch—just press the birdie.

EMILY ROSENBAUM MAKA, REDEYE

GADGETS

Sony Bloggie PM5 *$149 at* ***amazon.com***

It's not hard to figure out Sony is targeting the Facebook-obsessed with it's new pocket HD camcorder. Clues: the trying-hard-to-sound-hip name and the swivel lens, which makes it easy to take pictures and video of yourself. But the camera delivers. The Bloggie is easy to use and carry and is capable of 5-megapixel still photos, full HD video and one-touch uploads through a USB connector. Blog that! RYAN SMITH FOR REDEYE

JEWELRY

Venus Lure necklace

$79.50 at Banana Republic

Looking to update your summer wardrobe but don't have the cash to buy dozens of new frocks? This stunning piece from Banana Republic likely will work with just about any T-shirt or dress in your closet. Plus, it's composed of both silver and gold metals, meaning you can mix it with any item in your jewelry box as well.

JOANNA GUSTAFSON FOR REDEYE

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R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily ♿

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) 12:01 A.M.

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949

- **Princess Kaiulani** (PG) 1:50,4:20,7:00,9:45
- **The Secret in Their Eyes** (R) 1:00,4:05,7:10,10:05
- **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** (NR) 1:05,4:25,8:15
- **Exit Through the Gift Shop** (R) 1:45,4:30,7:45,10:15
- **Harry Brown** (R) 1:30,7:20
- **Casino Jack and the United States of Money** (R) 4:00,9:50
- **Please Give** (R) 1:40,4:15,7:15,9:40

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 12:15,1:00,2:45,3:30, 5:15,6:00,7:45,8:30,10:15,11:00
- **MacGruber** (R) ★ 1:30,4:00,6:30,9:00,11:15
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30
- **Just Wright** (PG) ★ 12:30,3:00,5:40,8:15,10:50
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:50,1:45,3:20,4:10,4:45,6:40, 7:30,8:00,10:00,10:40
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:00,12:40,1:20,3:10,3:45,4:20,6:15, 6:45,9:10,9:45,10:30
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) (Closed caption) 2:30,5:30,8:45
- **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) 1:10,3:40,6:05,8:40,11:10
- **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) 2:15,5:00,7:20,9:50

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:00 Midnight
- **The Joneses** (R) 5:30,7:40,9:50
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 4:20,7:10,9:50
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 4:45,7:15,9:45
- **Babies** (PG) 5:45,7:30,9:15

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th., Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- **MacGruber** (R) 12:20,2:40,5:00,7:30,9:45
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) 1:40,2:55,4:50,6:00,8:10,9:05
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ◆ 12:15,1:15,2:00,2:45,3:45, 4:30,5:15,6:15,7:00,7:45,8:45,9:30,10:00
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:15,1:10,2:10,3:00,4:10,5:10,6:10, 7:10,8:15,9:10,10:00
- **Just Wright** (PG) 12:45,1:50,3:10,4:20,5:30,6:50,8:00,9:15,10:15
- **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) 12:30,2:50,5:20,7:50,10:10
- **The Losers** (PG–13) 4:45 P.M.
- **Death at a Funeral** (R) 2:20 P.M.
- **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) 1:45,4:00

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
(312) 846-2800

- **No Films Showing Today** (NR)

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

- **The Back-up Plan** (PG–13) 2:15,4:25,6:35,8:40
- **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) 2:10,4:15,6:20,8:30
- **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) 2:00,4:00,6:05,8:10
- **Alice in Wonderland** (PG) 2:05,4:10,6:15,8:20

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604

- **Mother and Child** (R) 4:30,7:00,9:30
- **Babies** (PG) 5:30,7:30
- **The Human Centipede** (NR) 9:30 P.M.

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)
1608 N. Wells, Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- AMC Independent **Kites** (NR) 3:30,6:20
- AMC Independent **Mother and Child** (R) 1:50,4:40,7:30
- AMC Independent **Babies** (PG) 1:40,3:45,5:45,7:45
- AMC Independent **City Island** (PG–13) 2:00 P.M.
- AMC Independent **Greenberg** (R) 4:30 P.M.

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ◆ 12:01 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) 11:45,12:40,1:10,2:20, 3:20,3:50,5:00,6:00,6:30,7:45,8:45,9:15,10:30
- **MacGruber** (R) 11:30,12:30,2:00,4:45,7:30,10:15
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ◆ 11:00,1:40,4:20,7:00
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ◆ 11:15,2:30
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) 12:15,1:30,3:30,4:50,6:50,8:20,10:20
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) 11:40,1:20,2:25,4:15,7:05,8:05,9:50
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) ◆ 11:20,12:20,1:35,3:35,4:55,6:55,8:15,10:10
- **Just Wright** (PG) 11:10,1:45,4:25,7:15,10:00
- **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) ◆ 11:05 A.M.
- AMC Independent **Babies** (PG) 11:35,2:05,4:30,6:40,9:00
- **Death at a Funeral** (R) 11:00 A.M.
- **Kick-Ass** (R) 11:50 A.M.
- **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) 1:20 P.M.
- **Date Night** (PG–13) ◆ 12:50,3:05
- **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) 11:25,2:10,4:35,7:10

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)
7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 1:45,2:15,4:15,4:45, 6:45,7:15,9:15,9:45
- **MacGruber** (R) ★ 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,9:50
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 12:15,1:00,2:45,3:30,5:15, 6:15,7:45,8:45,10:15
- **Just Wright** (PG) ★ 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:50,10:20
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 12:45,1:40,3:40,4:10,6:30,7:20,9:00,10:05
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:30,1:20,3:10,3:45,4:50,6:20, 7:00,8:00,9:20,10:10
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:20,12:50,1:30,3:20,4:00,4:30,6:40, 7:10,7:40,9:30,10:00,10:30
- **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) 12:40,3:00,5:20,8:10,10:25
- **Furry Vengeance** (PG) 2:20,4:40
- **The Back-up Plan** (PG–13) 6:55,9:40
- **Date Night** (PG–13) 1:15,3:50,6:10,8:20,10:35
- **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) 1:50,4:20,6:50,9:10

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 2:45,5:15,7:40,10:00
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 12:30,1:50,2:50,3:40,4:40,6:15, 6:45,7:20,9:00,9:40,10:10
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 1:20,2:40,3:50,4:50,6:30,7:10,8:00,9:50,10:20
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 1:30,3:00,4:20,6:00,7:30,9:15,10:30
- **Date Night** (PG–13) 2:15,5:00,7:50,10:40

SHOWPLACE 14 GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 2:10,4:40,7:20,9:40
- **MacGruber** (R) ★ 1:10,3:50,6:10,8:30,10:45
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 12:15,1:40,2:40,4:10,5:10, 6:50,7:50,9:10,10:10
- **Just Wright** (PG) ★ 1:15,2:15,3:45,4:45,6:45,7:40,9:15,10:15
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 1:20,4:00,7:00,9:45
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:40,1:45,2:50,4:00,4:50,6:15, 7:15,8:15,9:20,10:20
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:30,1:30,3:30,4:30,6:30,7:30,9:30,10:30
- **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) 1:50,4:15,6:40,9:00
- **Death at a Funeral** (R) 7:45,10:00
- **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) 2:30,5:00

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)
4779 W. Cermak., Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 2:10,4:40,7:20,9:40
- **MacGruber** (R) ★ 1:00,3:45,6:10,8:30,10:50
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 12:15,1:10,1:40,2:40,3:40, 4:10,5:10,6:20,6:50,7:50,8:40,9:10,10:10
- **Just Wright** (PG) ★ 2:15,4:45,7:40,10:15
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 1:20,4:20,7:00,9:45
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:40,1:40,2:50,3:50,4:50,6:15, 7:15,8:15,9:20,10:20
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:30,1:30,3:00,3:30,4:30,6:05,6:30, 7:30,9:00,9:30,10:30
- **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) 1:50,4:15,6:40,9:15

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:01,12:02 A.M.
- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ ***21 & Older*** - 12:03 A.M.
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 12:10,12:40,1:10,2:10, 2:40,3:10,3:40,4:40,5:10,5:40,6:10,7:10,7:40,8:10,8:45,10:15
- **MacGruber** (R) ★ 12:30,2:50,5:15,7:30,9:50
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 1:40,4:10,6:40,9:15
- **Just Wright** (PG) ★ 12:50,1:50,3:20,4:30,6:20,7:20,9:00
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 1:15,4:20,7:15,10:20
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:00,1:30,3:45,4:50,6:50,8:00,9:55
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:20,1:00,2:00,3:30,4:00,5:00,6:30,7:50,9:30
- **Death at a Funeral** (R) 2:30,5:20,7:45
- **Date Night** (PG–13) 1:20,3:50,6:00,8:20

VIP Premium 21+

- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ ***VIP Premium 21+*** 12:01,12:02 A.M.
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ ***VIP Premium 21+*** 1:30,4:50,8:00
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) ***VIP Premium 21+*** 1:00,4:00

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560

- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 12:00,1:10,2:10,3:20, 4:20,5:30,6:30,7:40,8:40,9:50
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 12:00,2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:55,1:55,3:50,4:50,6:45,7:45,9:40
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 1:45,4:30,7:15,10:00
- **Date Night** (PG–13) 1:05,3:10,5:15,7:20,9:25
- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 12:00 Midnight

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123 ♿

- **MacGruber** (R) ★ 11:15,1:30,3:50,6:10,8:30,10:50
- **Sex and the City 2** (R) ★ 7:00,12:01
- **Shrek Forever After** (PG) ★ 11:25,12:35,1:50,3:00,4:15, 5:25,6:40,7:50,9:05
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 1:10,3:35,6:05,8:25,10:55
- **Shrek Forever After 3D** (PG) ★ 12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40
- **Babies** (PG) 12:50,2:55,5:10,7:20,9:30
- **City Island** (PG–13) 11:20,1:45
- **Date Night** (PG–13) 12:55,3:25,5:40,8:00,10:20
- **Iron Man 2** (PG–13) 12:25,1:55,3:20,4:55,6:15,7:45,9:10,10:40
- **Just Wright** (PG) ★ 11:40,2:10,4:45,7:25,9:55
- **Letters to Juliet** (PG) ★ 11:30,12:40,2:05,3:10,4:35,5:50,7:10,8:20
- **Please Give** (R) 12:30,2:50,5:20,7:40,10:05
- **Robin Hood** (PG–13) ★ 12:10,1:05,2:15,3:15,4:20,5:30,6:30,7:30,10:45
- **The Secret in Their Eyes** (R) 1:00,4:05,7:35,10:35

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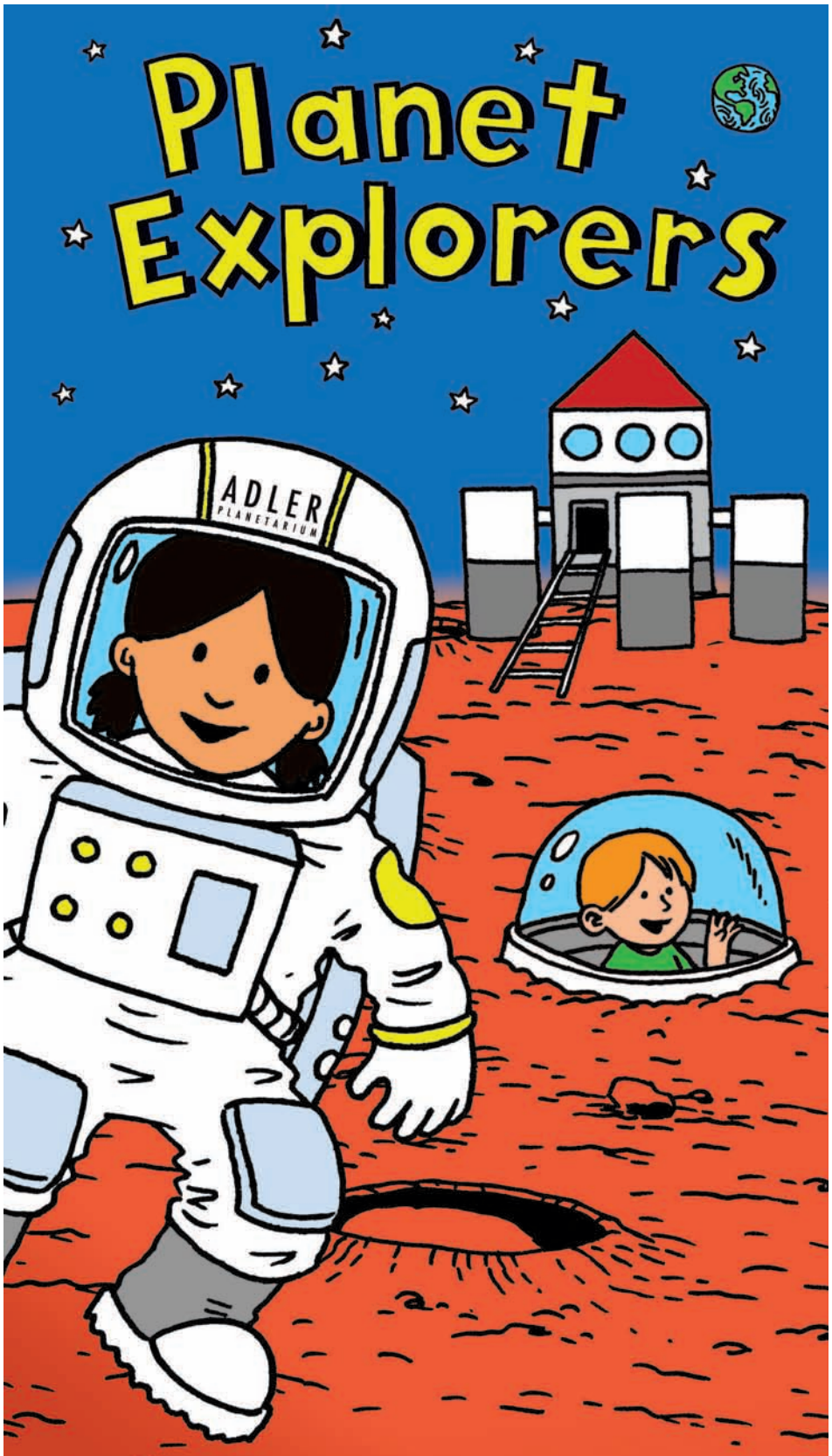

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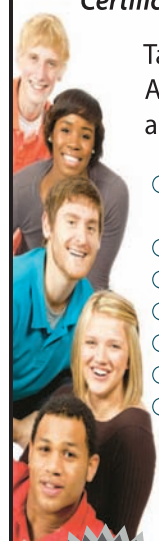

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Warm up your brain before working out

Tribune

Have a tough fitness question? Getting a clear answer can be difficult. Fitness enthusiasts looking for information have to consider the source. Professionals with formal backgrounds in kinesiology can provide insight grounded in research. With the help of two kinesiologists, here are answers to some complex fitness questions:

How often should you exercise?

"You need to accumulate a minimum of four hours of exercise a week for general health," said Eric Cressey, who owns Cressey Performance in Hudson, Mass. "I'd like to see more around six hours." Exercisers with less time to commit to fitness should establish a baseline of activity—walking the dog, cycling to work, gardening—and then add a blend of aerobic and resistance training three to five times per week, said Kent J. Adams, director of the Exercise Physiology Lab at California State University, Monterey Bay.

How can you burn fat?

"Trainers love to tell people there is this optimal fat burning zone, but the mathematics don't work out," Adams said.

To best burn fat, Adams recommends having a varied intensity training program that incorporates both high and low interval activities.

Exercisers are also recommended to focus on fat away from the gym. "Get your diet in line," Cressey said. "Reduce carbohydrates, particularly refined ones. Every time we eat carbs, we secrete insulin, which we know works counter to burning fats."

What are the best mid-workout fuels—excluding gel packs and power bars?

Put away the protein bars—both Cressey and Adams said the average exerciser needs only water during a long workout. Endurance athletes, such as marathon runners, can use gel packs and Cressey said there is some research suggesting these products improve recovery.

Post-workout fuel is important and Cressey recommends a low-carb option such as fruit yogurt.

What should you do when you want to quit?

Even the most committed find themselves watching the gym clock slowly tick. In low moments, Adams recommends switching activities. "Mental and physical rest is part of your variation in training," Adams said. Mental rest can mean taking a break from the treadmill and trying a running trail. Or swapping a cycling session for a spin class. Another option is to pair up with a training partner. "That's the value of a workout partner," Cressey said. "You avoid that issue before you begin, you know you're accountable."

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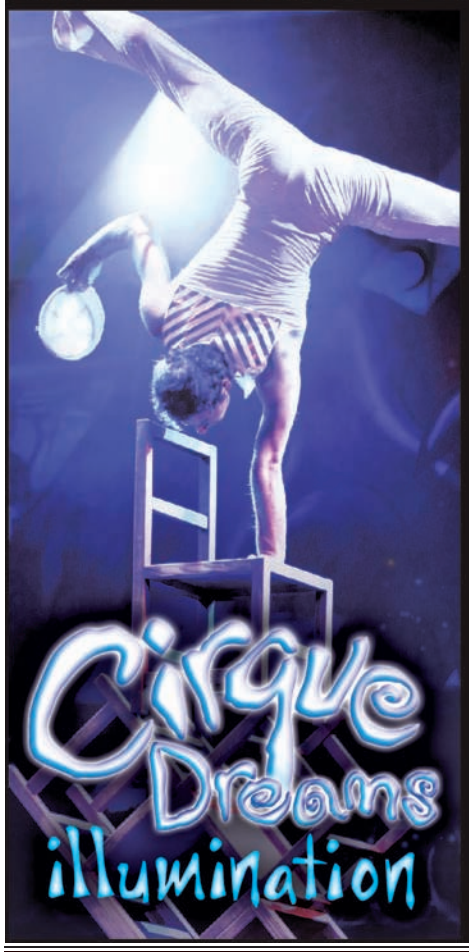

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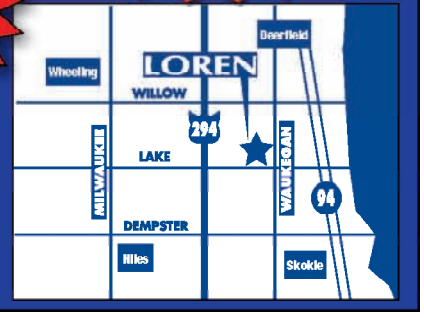

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Just let your wine breathe

bottle service

ALPANA SINGH
ritaredeye@tribune.com

Many wines—not just pricey selections—can benefit from decanting. Decanting is the act of transferring wine from the bottle to a glass carafe or decanter.

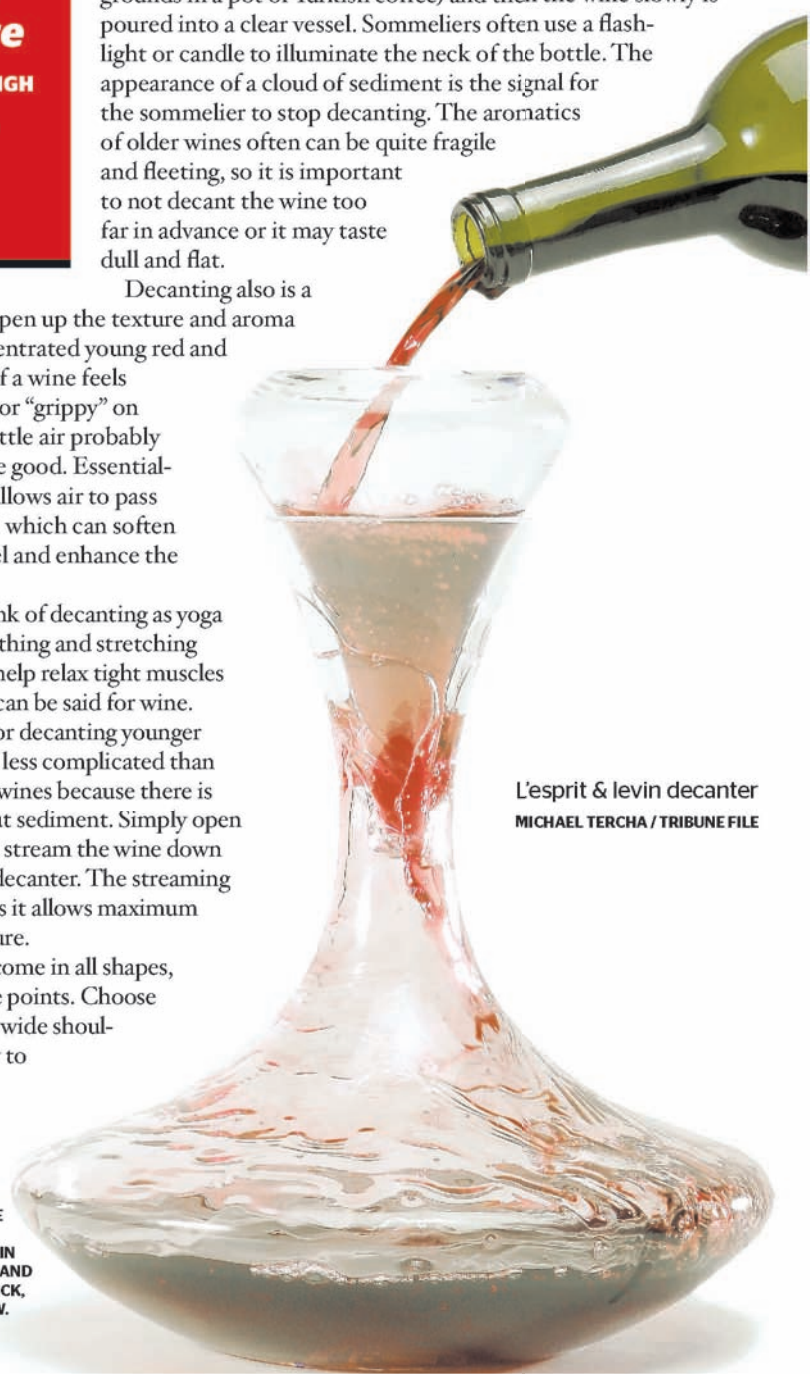
Decanting serves two purposes. By pouring wine into a decanter you expose it to oxygen, which softens the texture and allows the wine to breathe before you drink it. Decanting also separates the sediment and sludge that develop in older wines (often 10-plus years).

Sediment is allowed to settle at the base of the bottle (think of the grounds in a pot of Turkish coffee) and then the wine slowly is poured into a clear vessel. Sommeliers often use a flashlight or candle to illuminate the neck of the bottle. The appearance of a cloud of sediment is the signal for the sommelier to stop decanting. The aromatics of older wines often can be quite fragile and fleeting, so it is important to not decant the wine too far in advance or it may taste dull and flat.

Decanting also is a good way to open up the texture and aroma of tight, concentrated young red and white wines. If a wine feels closed, tough or "grippy" on the palate, a little air probably will do it some good. Essentially, decanting allows air to pass through wine, which can soften the mouth feel and enhance the aroma.

I like to think of decanting as yoga for wine. Breathing and stretching exercises can help relax tight muscles and the same can be said for wine. The process for decanting younger wines is much less complicated than that for older wines because there is no worry about sediment. Simply open the bottle and stream the wine down the sides of a decanter. The streaming is important as it allows maximum oxygen exposure.

Decanters come in all shapes, sizes and price points. Choose one that has a wide shoulder and is easy to handle.



L'esprit & levin decanter
MICHAEL TERCHA / TRIBUNE FILE

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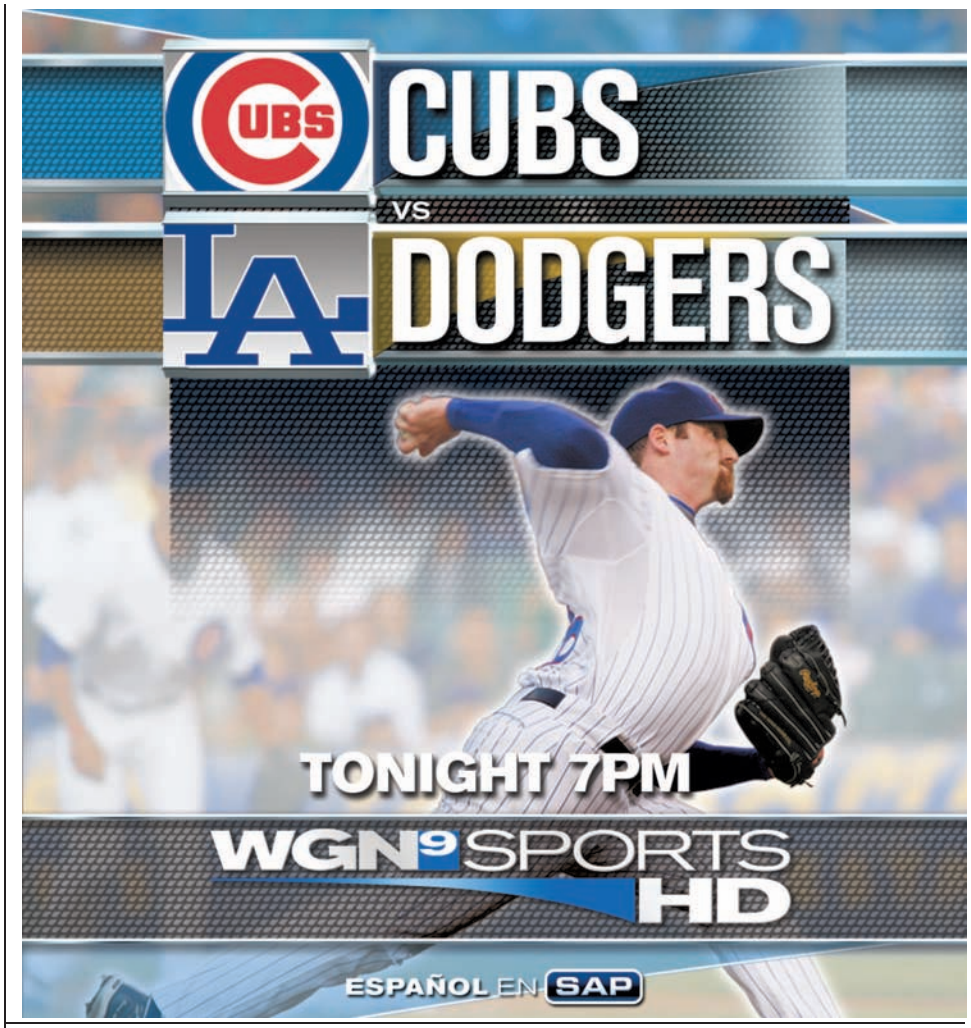

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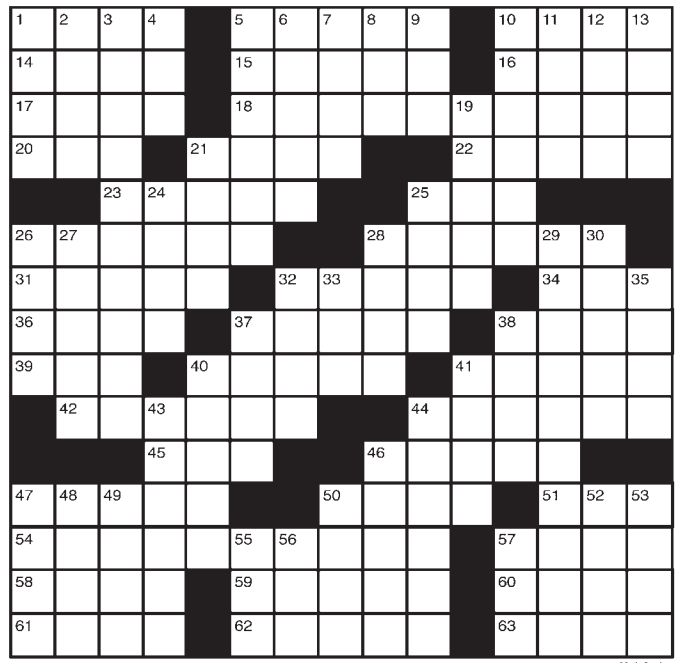
ACROSS

1 Queen's mate
5 Sheep's cry
10 One's own online diary, sort of
14 Notion
15 Sound portion of a telecast
16 City in Nevada
17 Poor area
18 Crassness
20 Stage scenery
21 Flair; spirit
22 Carousels, Ferris wheels
23 Amazon or Nile
25 Gallop
26 Actor Kevin
28 Deep valley
31 Refueling ship
32 Vote into office
34 Energy
36 Eager
37 Actress Hilary
38 Shadowbox
39 Cooking receptacle
40 Dozed
41 Make points
42 Infectious bacterial disease
44 Stylish; suave
45 Hearing organ
46 Excuse
47 Fish by dragging a net
50 Hat's edge
51 Bather's spot
54 Cold period
57 Stack
58 Skin problem
59 Canadian territory
60 Charged atoms
61 Scorch
62 _ oneself; strain
63 Small fly

DOWN

1 Smooch
2 Doing nothing
3 Refusal to take sides in a war
4 Shapely leg
5 Singer Pearl
6 Of the moon
7 Biblical garden
8 Feel miserable
9 Tic-tac-_
10 Intelligent
11 Give for a while
12 A single time
13 Departs
19 Hog's comment
21 At any time
24 _ tea
25 Off-the-_; ready-made
26 Cleansing bar
27 Revolve about a center
28 Penny
29 The other team
30 Approaches
32 Female flock members
33 Drink like Fido
35 Hunter's quarry
37 Insulting remark
38 Crusty wound covering
40 Fine-grained rock
41 Slender
43 Tin alloy once used for eating utensils
44 Customer
46 Knight's outfit
47 "_ the night before Christmas..."
48 Asian staple
49 Actress Paquin
50 Schwinn, e.g.
52 Arm bone
53 Finest
55 Bread variety
56 Groom's suit, for short
57 Oinker



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Vicky Mabrey interviews Jesse James on 'Nightline.' ABC

JESSE'S GIRLS

By Emily Rosenbaum Maka
REDEYE

Jesse James knows he screwed up.

A teary-eyed James told ABC on Tuesday night that he "took a pretty amazing life and amazing success and marriage ... and threw it away by my own hands."

James said he lied about cheating to his wife, Sandra Bullock, and knew he eventually would get caught. "When I was doing it, you know, one, I knew it was horrible, it made me feel horrible. And two, I knew I would get caught eventually, and I think I wanted to get caught," he said in the interview on "Nightline."

The host of "Monster Garage" said Bullock "had her suspicions in the past, but, you know, I lied, and lied my way out of it. I lied to everyone about everything, even to myself."

James also said seeing Bullock in the role of mother to 4-month-old son Louis is one of the "most amazing things," The Associated Press reported.

"She's like a fish to water. As soon as she put that baby in her hands, it was automatic and amazing," he said. Bullock has said she'll complete the adoption as a single parent. Divorce papers were filed in April in Austin, Texas, where Bullock has a home.

James also is asked about the infamous photo of him in a Nazi cap that emerged while he was in rehab. James says the speculation about the photo was soul-crushing, **eonline.com** reported.

"I think out of anything, this is why I'm doing this interview the most. Dealing with losing my marriage and my son and embarrassing everyone and decimating my life, but to be called a racist on top of that.

"I don't even remember taking the photo, but I can tell by the look on my face that it was a joke that was funny then, probably for like a minute, but looking at it now in the context of my life, it's not funny. There's not a racist bone in my body."

TV confessionals

Jesse James joins at least two other high-profile men who talked on-camera in the past year about their sexual escapades.

Woods

Tiger Woods made a lengthy statement Feb. 19, the first time he discussed his infidelities on TV. He also addressed his affairs in two brief TV interviews March 21. The ESPN and Golf Channel appearances were the first one-on-one interviews after the car accident at his Florida home and subsequent sex revelations. "I tried to stop and I couldn't stop and it was just horrific," a grim-faced Woods said.

Letterman

David Letterman began his "Late Show" on Oct. 1 by telling his audience about an alleged extortion attempt related to his past sexual relationships with staff members. "It's been a very bizarre experience," he said. "I need to certainly protect my family, I need to protect myself, hope to protect my job and the friends, everybody that has been very supportive through this." The audience laughed and applauded Letterman's speech in places, perhaps appreciating his self-deprecation and honesty—or maybe they just thought it was a gag.

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That's how many followers Conan O'Brien now has on Twitter. "I am now in the realm of Gods like Ashton, Bieber, Mariah, and updates on new Dell products," he tweeted.

It's Tina's time

Tina Fey is funny—the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts says so. Fey joins the ranks of Bill Cosby, Steve Martin, Lily Tomlin and other greats who have won the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. In a statement Tuesday, Fey says she's thrilled but assumes Betty White must have been "disqualified for steroid use."

Tina Fey
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Twin terrors

Rob Lowe seems to be channeling the scruffy, scary Brad Pitt. But at least Lowe has a legitimate reason for looking so grungy—he's got a new role on "Californication" on Showtime, according to **eonline.com**. Still no word on why Pitt looks like a homeless guy.

Johnny be fun

Johnny Weir has a colorful new 'do and says "Sex and the City 2" is the inspiration. The skater told **people.com** at Monday night's premiere in New York that he wanted to go pink to honor the "SATC" women. As for the "Sex" character he relates to most, he's all over the map. "I think of myself as a Carrie, but everyone thinks they're a Carrie. I have a lot of Charlotte in me—I'm very uptight in many ways—and I've got some Samantha in me, too."

Whiteley

'Transformers' T&A

Run. Lean over and pretend to fix cars. Look hot. Those are pretty much the qualifications to be a "Transformers" hottie. The blogosphere buzz, including at **latimes.com**, is that British Victoria's Secret model Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, 23, will be cast as the female lead in the franchise's third installment, due out July 1, 2011.

The skinny on winners

"Dancing With the Stars" wrapped up its season Tuesday night with a bloated finale event, crowning singer Nicole Scherzinger (right) the winner. Naperville skating hero Evan Lysacek gave it his all and appeared pleased to have made it to the final two. In the most unintentionally hilarious moment of the evening, former contestant Kate Gosselin stumbled around on the dance floor in tepid pants (hey, there's no way we can call those hot). In other reality news, Michael Ventrella of Bartlett started "The Biggest Loser" as the heaviest contestant ever on the show and ended as the winner and record-breaker. He lost a jaw-dropping 264 pounds.

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